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CONTENTS: Vol. LXIII. No. 12 (Series No. 1,234).

PAGE	PAGE
Bankruptcies and Failures .. 496	Gazette .. 496
Birth .. 497	Irish News .. 489
Brighton Association of Pharmacy .. 512	Kaleidoscope .. 498
British Association .. 506	Legal Reports .. 494
Business Changes .. 498	Marriages .. 497
Colonial and Foreign News 493	New Companies and Com- pany News .. 497
Coming Events .. 508	Observations and Reflec- tions .. 499
Correspondence .. 509	Personalities .. 508
Deaths .. 497	Sale of Cough lozenges .. 517
Deed of Arrangement .. 493	Scientific Progress .. 498
East Indian News .. 492	Scotch News .. 490
Editorial Comments:—	South African News .. 518
Free Trade and Protec- tion .. 500	Trade-marks Applied for .. 512
The Registrar-General's Roll .. 503	Trade Notes .. 508
Notes .. 504	Trade Report .. 513
English News .. 486	West Indian Grass Oils .. 507
French News .. 491	Wills .. 518

THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY,

1904.

THIS work is presented free to all subscribers to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. In consequence of our exceptionally large colonial and foreign circulation the DIARY has to go to press comparatively early, so that the work may be printed, bound, despatched, and delivered to subscribers abroad before Christmas. Our DIARY is the most esteemed and valuable advertising-medium of the kind in the world. It is used all the year round as a buying aid by the best business-men in the drug-trade. Advertisers should, therefore, be sure of getting space in it for their announcements by addressing

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42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Summary.

SOME TRADE LAW CASES are reported on p. 491.

A DEATH from tanning-liquor is reported (p. 483).

SOME CONTRACTS for disinfectants and drugs have been settled (p. 486).

INCENSE, its composition and trade are the subject of interesting letters on p. 509.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SALON is good this year, although the exhibits are fewer (p. 489).

TRADE STATISTICS of an interesting character come from the Registrar-General (p. 503).

MR. GLYN-JONES spoke about the medicine stamp business at Brighton last week (p. 512).

A LARGE NUMBER of points in regard to ailment-names, and known, admitted, and approved remedies are dealt with on p. 510.

CONFECTIONERS are much worried about the ailment-name ruling, for they find they can no longer sell cough-lozenges—at least, so named (p. 517).

WE COMMENT on the confectioners' grievance, and on movements by herbalists and wholesale druggists to have their views presented to the Board of Inland Revenue (p. 503).

BRIGHTON is to invite the British Pharmaceutical Conference to meet there in 1905 (p. 512).

THE DEATH of Mr. W. C. Fry, of Taunton, from chloral-poisoning is reported (p. 487).

MR. W. T. OWBRIDGE left over 112,000l. Abstracts of his will and several others will be found on p. 518.

SOME fresh light in regard to the explosive properties of potassium chlorate comes from a French source (p. 501).

THE PRIME MINISTER has published a pamphlet on insular free trade which advocates retaliatory protection (p. 500).

STOVE-PASTE has killed a child in the province, and the Coroner's jury want it to be scheduled as a poison (p. 488).

THE BOOKS of RATES EXEMPTION is useful, according to "Xrayser," but how far can it be carried? he asks (p. 493).

THE first formalin-in-milk case heard in Ireland was disposed of in Belfast on Monday, the milk-dealer being fined (p. 495).

GERMAN PHARMACY is likely to get a modification of the concession-tax. It is proposed to base this on each pharmacist's returns (p. 493).

OUR BANKRUPTCY REPORTS are in respect to the failures of W. Leam, F. H. Bromfield, V. List, J. E. Elington, and E. S. Balchin (p. 496).

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL's report for 1901 shows fewer deaths from scheduled poisons, especially in the accident class. It is epitomised on p. 503.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION is to go to South Africa in 1905. It will meet in Cambridge next year, under the presidency of Mr. A. J. Balfour (p. 506).

"XRAYSER" does not agree with Sir Norman Lockyer about more universities being required for this country. He thinks more industrial enterprise should come first (p. 493).

A DESIGN for the canopy over the door of No. 17 Bloomsbury Square, embracing a statuette of a well-known mountaineer, pharmacist, and flesh-stimulator is depicted on p. 493.

STOWMARKET GUARDIANS are considering the advisability of getting their medical officers to write prescriptions for expensive medicines instead of dispensing them—chemists to do the latter (p. 486).

A VENEREAL-PILL LABEL has brought a West-end chemist's manager into the police-court. A box was shown in the window, and the manager was summoned under the Indecent Advertisements Act (p. 495).

A BLUE-BOOK issued this week deals with statistical matters bearing upon the fiscal question. We comment fully upon it in an article on p. 500, giving particulars respecting the branches of business with which this journal is directly concerned.

THE SHELLAC AND CLOVE MARKETS have shown considerable animation this week, chiefly on speculative account. Ergot has been in good demand at higher rates, and other articles showing an advance include peppermint oil, clove oil, cod-liver oil, pimento, turpentine, and sulphate of copper. Castor oil is firmer, and so is quinine. Menthol and cream of tartar are easier. Cinchona, at auction, sold at advance of 10 per cent. (p. 513).



## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

A Lincoln mother, whose child was severely burned by its clothes catching fire, first bathed the burns with turpentine, and then carried the child to the hospital, where it died.

At Berwick-on-Tweed, on September 10, Mr. John Brown, pharmaceutical chemist, was fined 13s. 6d. for obstructing the pathway by allowing hampers and boxes to stand in front of his shop.

The youth Knowles, charged on remand with stealing three cameras from the shop of Mr. F. W. Stedman, chemist, High Street, Ashford, Kent (*C. & D.*, September 12, page 452), has been bound over.

The Timothy White Company, wholesale and retail druggists, Portsmouth, have given notice of appeal against the assessment of their premises in Chandos Street and Commercial Road, Landport.

At Handsworth Police Court, on September 11, Alfred Jones was fined 5s. and costs for not having his face guarded whilst working at syphon-filling with aerated waters. He had previously been cautioned.

The prosecution of a London tradesman for selling cotton waistcoats purporting to be linen may probably act as a warning to chemists, who frequently, but unconsciously, sell as lint that made from gossypium instead of from flax or linum.

At Bradford, on September 4, Alfred Norbury, traveller, Headingley, was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment, with such hard labour as he could bear, for stealing 2,503 gals. of olive oil, valued at 300l., the property of his employers, Messrs. John & David Stubble, oil-merchants, of Batley.

At an inquest held at Eastbourne on September 14, relative to the death of an infant named Butler, the mother stated that the child, which was 6½ months old, had been given two teething-powders, made up by Mr. Thompson, chemist and druggist, Seaside. She added that she fed the child with a patent food. Dr. A. Wheeler Taylor said the food was wrong. The Coroner said the powders had nothing to do with the death, and a verdict of death from acute diarrhoea and convulsions was returned.

At Worship Street Police Court on September 15, Albert Harris (14) was remanded on a charge of stealing 11l. 7s. 10d., the money of his employers, Messrs. Walker & Harris, chemists, of East Road, City Road, E.C. Prisoner, who was employed as errand-boy, was given the money in gold and silver, enclosed in an envelope, to take to a firm in the city. The boy did not return, and the manager, on making inquiry, found that he had not delivered the letter, and the account was unpaid. Two days after, the boy's mother brought to the manager a letter and 9s. The boy had spent the balance in riding about and going to theatres.

### Fires.

A fire occurred in the chemical department of Sir Alfred Hickman's steelworks at Wolverhampton on September 12, and damage estimated at 2,000l. was occasioned.

On September 11, the sheds at the Helcke fulminate-of-mercury works, Alderney, were struck by lightning. A terrific explosion ensued, followed by a fire which gutted the sheds. The spirit-vaults and the powder-magazine were saved.

An alarming fire broke out last week on the premises of Mr. F. Thomas, chemist, in Market Place, Boston. The seat of the outbreak was at the rear of the building where a large quantity of materials had been deposited for making up a sheep-dip preparation. At first the brigade were hampered by a burst in the water-main, and before the flames were effectually extinguished the building in which the fire broke out was completely destroyed.

### The Council, the Board, and the Analyst.

A dispute between the Peterborough County Council and the Local Government Board as to the appointment of an analyst has led to a deadlock, the result of which has been that during the past quarter no analyses have been made. The County Council some time since appointed a Hull analyst to the post, but finding the distance between the two centres an inconvenience, decided to appoint Mr. W. Elborne, M.A., who was duly qualified. The Department, however, has intervened, and refuses to allow the appointment of the Hull analyst to be terminated. The local authority declines to be dictated to by Whitehall in this matter, and food and drug analysis has in consequence ceased.

### Contracts.

The Swaffham Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of the Sanitas Company for the supply of disinfectants to the workhouse.

The Thingoe Board of Guardians have appointed Mr. A. H. Norman, chemist, Abbeygate Street, Bury St. Edmunds, to supply the drugs required at the workhouse.

Mr. Thomas Kenny, chemist, 236 Beverley Road, Hull, has obtained the supply to the Sculcoates (Hull) Board of Guardians of drugs, surgical appliances, and aerated waters.

The Dartford (Kent) Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. W. T. Tucker, chemist, of Dartford, for disinfectants to the workhouse during the next half-year, and that of Messrs. Baiss Brothers & Stevenson (Limited), of London, for drugs.

The Guardians of the Cannock Union have accepted the following tenders: Clinical thermometers 2s. each, feeding-bottles 10s. per dozen, soda-water 3s. 6d. per dozen, W. McIntyre, Cannock; lime-water 3d. (per gal. ?), Harper, Bridgtown; brimstone 1½d. per lb., combs 5s. per dozen, Condy's fluid 11s. per dozen, cotton wool 1s. 2½d. per lb., fullers' earth 3½d. per lb., lint 1s. 8½d. per lb., methylated spirit 2s. 10d. per gal., Sanitas disinfectant fluid 11s. (? per dozen), turpentine 4s. per gal., tow 5d. per lb., Jeyes' fluid 4s. 6d., Lawes' fluid 4s., kill-germ 4s., T. W. Garland, Cannock.

The Portsmouth Corporation have accepted the following tenders for disinfectants: Messrs. Armstrong & Co. (Limited), London, E.C., for commercial liquid carbolic acid and carbolic powder; Timothy White Company, Portsmouth, for Jeyes' perfect purifier, McDougall's Nos. 3 and 4 purifier, Izal fluid, and pyrozone cubes (Hope's); Messrs. McDougall Brothers, 60 Mark Lane, London, E.C., for No. 5 purifier; Sanitas Company (Limited), for formalin tablets; Lawes Chemical Company (Limited), Mark Lane, E.C., for Lawes' disinfecting-fluid Nos. 1 and 2; Messrs. Rowan & Sons, Lime Street, London, E.C., for Rowan's fluid.

### The Supply of "Expensive" Medicines.

At a meeting of the Stowmarket Board of Guardians, on September 11, a long discussion ensued regarding the supply of expensive medicines to the indoor and outdoor poor. A committee which had been appointed to consider the matter reported that they were unable to come to a decision, in consequence of their inability to decide what were really expensive medicines. A list of those supplied to the Chipping Norton Workhouse had been received from the Local Government Board, and the committee had asked whether the medicines should be supplied in bulk to the medical officers of the Union, or whether the salaries of these officers should be increased by 10 per cent. to allow them to supply the medicines themselves. Mr. G. J. Gostling, chemist and druggist, suggested that when expensive medicines were required the medical officers should write prescriptions and have them dispensed by qualified chemists, and charged to the account of the Guardians. In both Stowmarket and Walsham-le-Willows there were, he said, ample facilities for this to be done. Mr. William Wade supported this suggestion, pointing out that the dispensing of medicines by private chemists was successfully employed by clubs, charitable institutions, and urban councils throughout the country. Mr. E. Terry suggested that the simpler plan would be to grant the 10-per-cent. allowance to



medical officers, because of the difficulty of getting the medicines distributed to patients. Dr. Wood, one of the medical officers, said he thought the suggestion of the 10-per-cent. increase would be more favourably received by his colleagues. The decision of the matter was deferred.

#### Outings.

The second outing of the season in connection with the employés of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), 60 Bartholomew Close, E.C., was held at the King's Oak Hotel, High Beech, on September 12. The party drove in fine weather from Chingford through Epping Forest to High Beech, where high tea and a musical programme were provided. The manager, Mr. C. Anderson, was Chairman, and Mr. J. H. Rogers, Vice-Chairman. The committee, consisting of the gentlemen named, and Messrs. J. Podmore, J. Brown, A. Garner, W. H. Wilkinson, H. J. Bryant, E. Rose, and Miss F. Ibbs made admirable arrangements that satisfied everyone. Songs were given by Miss A. Williams, Miss L. Bateman, and Messrs. G. Woollard, R. W. Dyson, A. Garner, J. Podmore, R. Wright, H. Cusselle, W. Canner, and D. H. Dicks. Mr. A. B. Ibbs was accompanist.

On September 12 the employés of Messrs. Wyleys (Limited), of Coventry, had their annual outing at the Charterhouse Grounds on the invitation of Mr. W. F. Wyley. About ninety sat down at two o'clock to dinner, after which Mr. Wyley, in giving various toasts, referred to his recent visit to the Antipodes. That journey, he said, made primarily for business purposes, had afforded him much pleasure, and was eminently satisfactory. The firm has always prided itself on the number of years' service of its employés, and he referred to one employé present whose term had exceeded forty years. Mr. H. W. Jones proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Wyley. Afterwards sports, bowls, croquet, &c., were indulged in until dark, when after the distribution of the prizes and three hearty cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Wyley the company separated. The programme of sports included 120 yards handicap, sack-race, and tug-of-war for the men, and for the ladies a skipping and an egg-and-spoon race. A cricket-match was also played. The weather was most considerate, as, although the wind was rather cold, the sun shone all the afternoon.

#### Midland Notes.

The missing lady doctor scare is feared by some to have a bad effect on the future employment of women in medicine and pharmacy.

Writing with reference to the herb-growing industry at Evesham, a correspondent states that belladonna grows wild at Winchcombe.

Herbert Edwards, described as a "B.A. and an analytical chemist," has been committed to the Warwick Sessions for obtaining food and lodging at the Woolpack Hotel by false pretences.

Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited) have been boring a well at their Sattlely works, and have discovered a good supply of water, but it is so hard and unamenable to softening that they have been compelled to fall back upon the Corporation supply. At their Bromsgrove lint-mills Messrs. Southall have an abundance of suitable water.

Mr. A. S. Denham, whose death in Australia is recorded in last week's *C. & D.* (page 458), was many years ago manager of Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay's apparatus department, and left to take up work at the Antipodes in conjunction with Mr. Chater and Mr. Thomason, both of whom were at one time at 17 Bull Street, Birmingham.

The scarcity of honey is likely to prove a theme for the future. One Worcestershire apiculturist complains of the volume yielded this year owing to the unfavourable season. Last year he got twice this year's yield, and last season was reckoned a bad one. The pharmacist will also have to pay more probably for his "black-currant paste of commerce" owing to the prevailing scarcity of all fruits. A King's Heath gentleman is inviting friends to view in his garden what this season is really a phenomenal sight—an apple-tree laden with well-formed and nearly ripe fruit.

#### A Chemist's Death.

An inquest was held at Taunton, before Mr. C. E. Hogen, the Deputy-Coroner for West Somerset, on September 14, on

the body of Mr. William Cattle Fry, chemist and druggist. Mr. Albert Fry, son of the deceased, stated that his father suffered from sleeplessness, and had been in the habit of taking a draught, generally some form of chloral, often bromidia. On September 10 he was in his usual health and was at business during a portion of the day. He went to bed early that night, and about ten o'clock next morning when Mrs. Fry went upstairs she observed that the deceased was sleeping. She said it would be best not to disturb him as he had had a bad night, and, so far as witness knew, nobody saw him again until just before one o'clock, when his mother went upstairs again and tried to awaken deceased. She could not do so, nor could witness; and they eventually sent for Dr. Joscelyne. The doctor did all he could, but his father never recovered consciousness, and died early on Saturday morning. There was no chloral or any other preparation of the sort in the room, and so far as he knew his father did not take a draught during the night. His father did not take a draught every night. When he required one witness generally made it up. A servant in the employ of Mr. Fry deposed to seeing him go into the shop early on the Friday morning and returning a few minutes afterwards. Dr. A. E. Joscelyne said he found Mr. Fry's condition so serious that he called in Dr. Meade-King for consultation. The doctors thought the deceased had taken chloral, and treated him accordingly by injecting strychnine until the effects of the chloral wore off. In Dr. Joscelyne's opinion death was due to failure of the heart's action, occasioned by chloral. He certainly did not think Mr. Fry was a man who would take the chloral for the purpose of suicide, and probably he had had a bad night and wanted sleep. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

#### "Mother's Friend" to be Analysed.

At Earlestown on September 14, Mr. S. Brighthouse, Lancs County Coroner, held an inquest on the body of William Macdonald, aged seven weeks. The child had been ill since birth, and was prescribed for by Dr. Gange. Frequently, however, the child had been given a medicine called "Mother's Friend," and on September 10 a dose of this medicine was administered by the child's grandmother. The medicine was obtained from an Earlestown chemist. The child died on the following morning. The Coroner ordered an examination of the body to be made, and death was found to be due to narcotic poisoning. Evidence was given at the inquest by the mother of the child and a girl who purchased the medicine from the chemist. The girl said the mixture was given to her without either label or directions on the bottle. The Coroner adjourned the inquest until September 29, to enable the county analyst to make an analysis of the medicine.

#### Sheffield Notes.

Among the plans approved by the City Council at their last meeting was one for alterations and additions to the house of Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme in Priory Road.

The premises occupied by Mr. S. P. Lowe, chemist and druggist, at 42 London Road, and 1 and 3 Lansdowne Road, together with the shop and dwelling-house adjoining, which were to have been offered for sale by auction on Tuesday, have been disposed of by private treaty. The price has not transpired, but we understand that it is a considerable drop on the price at which the property was last offered for sale viz., 2,400/.

Mr. J. M. Furness, chemist and druggist, has contributed in a letter to the local Press a caustic statement in connection with the controversy now raging in respect to a proposal of the City Council to erect a destructor on Primrose Meadows, a site in the midst of the thickly populated Abbeydale district. Mr. Furness gives the history of the Corporation's somewhat erratic proceedings in connection with this site, and hints not obscurely that there may be trouble at the Local Government Board inquiry on Friday next.

Dr. Robertson, late medical officer of health, has issued his annual report for 1902, a work of almost monumental proportions. One of the remarkable points in the report is the low death-rate, which was 16.9 per 1,000, the lowest on record, being chiefly due to the cooler summer. There were 750 deaths from tuberculosis, and the medical officer again



urges the necessity of providing a municipal sanatorium for the treatment of this disease. The voluntary system of notification which has been in operation will shortly be superseded by the compulsory notification authorised in the new Corporation Act.

The Sheffield Board of Guardians at their meeting on Wednesday, September 16, accepted the offer of Mr. Andrew Graham to supply drugs and sundries for the workhouse and outdoor dispensaries for the next six months. The present method of obtaining tenders is to issue advertisements, asking chemists to state what discount they are prepared to allow off certain specified drug-lists, and the question was raised as to whether this method cannot be improved upon. The matter is to be considered before the new contract expires. The Guardians also reappointed Mr. Charles C. Drabble, L.D.S., as dentist for the Children's Homes for a further period of twelve months. The salary is 35*l.* per annum.

One of the sensations of the meeting of the City Council on September 9 was the withdrawal by the Health Committee of their recommendation that Dr. Ernest G. Annis, medical officer of health for Greenwich, should be appointed as medical officer of health for the city, in place of Dr. Robertson, resigned. The committee, without vouchsafing any explanation for their action, asked to be allowed to take the matter back for further consideration, which was allowed, and it is now announced that Dr. Annis has withdrawn his application. It was understood that the deputation, consisting of the Lord Mayor and Dr. Hargreaves, who visited Greenwich to make inquiries respecting Dr. Annis, came back with a very favourable report.

#### Poison at the Grocer's.

On September 10, an inquest was held at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, touching the death of George Dewhurst, who died from the effects of eating "stove-paste." The child's mother deposed that on July 9 she went to the grocery establishment of Emmett Earnshaw, in Common Lane, Southonram, taking the child with her. The child had a piece of bread in his hand. Whilst witness was engaged with the shopman the child walked round the end of the counter. Shortly afterwards witness heard a gurgling sound and rushed round to the child. He was unconscious, and his lips and mouth were much burned. There was a jar of stove-paste near the child and a large spoon lying beside it. The child had dipped its bread in the spoon, which contained some paste, and had eaten a portion. Witness gave him some milk, and he vomited slightly. Dr. Strickland was sent for and ordered the child to be taken to the infirmary, where he died. Mrs. Earnshaw, the grocer's wife, told the jury that she was in an adjoining room when the incident occurred, and rushed in at once. A Juror: Did not you know this stove-paste was poisonous?—I knew that it burned. Was it labelled "Poison"?—No, I do not think so. It is a patent article used for cleaning brasses. But do not you think it is dangerous to have it placed where children can get at it?—Well, my children have never touched it. Was the jar covered?—No; it is a brown jar, holding 36 lbs. In reply to the Coroner witness said a lid had been put on the jar, which was now placed out of reach of children.

A Juror: It seems to me that a poisonous article like this ought to have some restrictions placed upon its sale.

The Coroner: Considering it is such a deadly poison, there certainly ought to be some precautions taken in the sale of it.

Dr. Woodwork, house-surgeon at the infirmary, said death resulted from the child having swallowed some corrosive poison. The mother brought him a sample of the stove-paste, which he found to be a strong alkali. He understood that it was not a scheduled poison. It was just as strong as either sulphuric acid or nitric acid. This stove-paste was a patent article.

The Coroner: You say it is not a scheduled poison, but some of its component parts may be scheduled poisons; how would it affect the question as to its being scheduled? It appears to me the subject is one for the chemists and druggists or the Pharmaceutical Society to take up.

The Jury added a rider recommending that overtures be made to the Home Office to have the stove-paste scheduled among poisons. The Coroner said he would take the matter

up and ascertain definitely whether the stove-paste in question was a scheduled poison or not. If not, he would communicate with the Home Office and with the Pharmaceutical Society. Of course, if it were already a scheduled poison he would have to communicate the facts to the police authorities. The Foreman: If it is not scheduled as a poison, it ought to be.

#### Oxalic Acid in Epsom Salts.

The adjourned inquest was held on September 12 at Wandsworth on the body of Louis Francois Scholliers, who died (see *C. & D.*, August 22, page 350) after taking some Epsom salts. The widow now stated that her husband was perfectly well up to the time of taking the salts, which he mixed in the kitchen. Directly after taking the salts he complained of a burning sensation in his throat, and said he thought he had been poisoned. William Cresswell Colleen, chemist and druggist, of St. John's Road, Clapham Junction, recognised the Epsom salts box (produced) as being one of his own, but said he had no recollection of selling it to deceased. Dr. Freyberger, one of the London County Council's pathologists, said he received from the Coroner's officer a tumbler covered with a cloudy sediment, and containing a crystallised substance, also a box labelled "Purified Epsom salts," and containing 4½ dr. of crystals similar to those produced. He likewise received the viscera and contents of the stomach. On spreading out the crystals on a glass plate he noticed other crystalline matter of a whitish opaque appearance and perfectly granular. He separated them, and found that they tasted exceedingly sour, and on testing them they gave all the reactions of oxalic acid. The 4½ dr. of crystals in the box containing 1½ gr. of oxalic acid, and in the dregs in the tumbler he found 8 gr. of the poison, which would give a total of 85½ per cent. of oxalic acid in the tumbler, which was altogether out of proportion to that which could have been in the box. In the fluid composing the stomach-contents he found 161 gr. of the acid. Death was due to oxalic-acid poisoning. In summing-up the Coroner said it was perfectly clear that deceased must have had some oxalic acid by him, but whether he took it accidentally or by design was not known. He thought, however, that they could absolve the Epsom salts and the chemist from all blame in the matter. The jury returned an open verdict, and exonerated the chemist from all blame.

#### Tannic-acid Poisoning.

On September 15, Dr. F. J. Waldo held an inquiry at the Southwark Coroner's Court concerning the death of William Crafts (51), late a stoker at the tannery of Barrow Brothers, The Grange, Bermondsey. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased fell into a pit containing oak-bark liquor, and swallowed a quantity of it. He vomited very freely, and was taken to Guy's Hospital, where he suffered from intense diarrhoea and died two hours after admission. Dr. Stanley Hodgson, house-physician, said the man exhibited symptoms of irritant poisoning, and a *post-mortem* examination revealed that death had resulted from a metallic poison such as arsenic. Tannic acid, which the liquor contained, acted as a mild astringent when taken in small doses, but as a poison when swallowed in large quantities. There were, however, no reported cases in England of poisoning in tanneries, but one from Germany which occurred about forty years ago. In that case the man swallowed liquor containing tannic acid, but diarrhoea did not supervene. Mr. James Gordon Parker, D.Sc., director of the Leathersellers' Company's Research Laboratory at Herold's Institute, Bermondsey, said he had analysed the liquor and found that it did not contain any poison as known in chemistry. The liquor was a solution of oak-bark and valonia, small quantities of gambogia, ordinary tannic acid, gallic acid, and minute traces of calcium and potassium. It was a common thing for tanners to drink small quantities of the liquor when suffering from diarrhoea. He had never heard of the liquor acting as a poison. It was one of the purest tannings. Dr. Hodgson, recalled, said Dr. Stevenson, the Home Office expert, agreed with him that death had resulted from an irritant poison. The stomach presented unmistakable signs of an irritant poison, and tannic acid would produce such signs. The jury returned a verdict that death resulted from shock following diarrhoea and vomiting.



due to falling into a pit and swallowing some of the liquor therein which contained tannic acid.

#### Northamptonshire Drugs.

Reporting to the Northamptonshire County Council, Dr. E. W. Voelcker, the public analyst, states that during the year four samples of sweet spirit of nitre, four of camphorated oil, and one each of glycerin and willow-charcoal were taken in the northern division. Of these, three samples of sweet nitre were deficient in nitrous ether and one sample of camphorated oil was deficient in camphor, the remaining samples being genuine. In the southern division the samples taken included four of ground ginger, four of arrowroot, two of sweet spirit of nitre, one of camphorated oil, and one of paregoric elixir. Those not genuine were two of sweet nitre, which were deficient in ethyl nitrite.

#### In the Linked Ring.

Contemporary photography which gives "evidence of personal artistic feeling and motive quite apart from purely scientific and technical considerations" is on show this week at the Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, W. There are 253 exhibits (thirty-one fewer than at last year's Salon), but they are of considerably more general interest. The giants of impressionism are present in strength, but there are some new exhibitors whose products show a marvellous cleverness and skill in technique. Prominent among these is Mr. Alvin Langdon Coburn. He sends seven samples of his work, all of them striking, and one in particular, "Portrait of my Grandmother" (128), a most praiseworthy production. The lady is in shadow, even to the upper part of the face; the light is on the lower part of the face, showing a firm mouth and chin. Part of one hand is also touched by the light, and the *tout ensemble* is most pleasing. With one exception—"Bell Tower, Santa Barbara Mission, California" (99)—Mr. Coburn's contributions are portraits. Mr. Coburn is evidently of the school of Mrs. Käsebieber, who bulked largely in last year's Salon, and whose portrait (90) appears amongst the others. Another welcome exhibitor is Mr. Robert Demachy with five impressions, the most noteworthy, perhaps, being "Speed" (55), a motor-car bowling along in a cloud of dust. His studies are varied and modern, but all are picturesque. Mr. David Blount's most successful work is "The Crinoline" (33); it shows fine detail. Well-executed portraits, with no attempt at fuzziness, are shown by Mr. Reginald Craigie, and Mr. Frederick H. Evans has seven subjects under review, each of which is worth looking at. Mr. C. Yarnall Abbott contributes five studies, one a portrait of Mr. Coburn, and the other studies of Japanese subjects. Three large landscapes by Mr. A. Horsley Hinton are in the artist-photographer's best manner, "Rain from the Hills" (183) being the most suggestive. Mr. J. Craig Annan's portrait of "Pittendrigh MacGillivray, Esq., R.S.A." (89), is a most successful piece of work. The same may be said of the almost perfect detail shown in "Asparagus Fern" (72) and other studies of Miss Carine Cadby. The King is the subject of two contributions (both of them conventional) by Baron A. de Meyer. Beautifully executed studies, "Miss W." (35), by Mr. W. B. Dyer, and "Pierrot" (176), by Miss Mabel Jennings, should not be missed, nor should "Industrie" (157) (the smoking chimneys of a manufacturing town) and "La Tamise à Londres" (196) (a collection of Thames barges), by Mr. Victor Stouffs. There are more purely black-and-white effects than usual this year, the bichromates and ferro-prussiates being less numerous. This, on the whole, is an improvement, and the pharmaceutical photographer with an hour to spare might do worse than look in at the Salon, which is open until November 7.

#### The Week's Poisonings.

Thirteen deaths by poison have occurred during the week, five of which were misadventures. An aged widow at Sheffield and a Glossop police-sergeant poisoned themselves with carbolic acid. Laudanum in overdose caused the deaths of Miss Ida Davidson (20), a Kensington school-teacher, and John Hawkins, a Manchester cotton broker. A Battersea woman, Alice Brookland, was worried by an accumulation of debt and took a fatal dose of oxalic acid. Frank Hurt, a London corn-merchant, on being served with a warrant of arrest at Sidmouth, poured a quantity of prussic acid in his

coffee, drank it, and died. The prussic acid, according to the label, was purchased at Banbury. Richard Butler (53), dispenser to Dr. Bosworth Wright, of Portsmouth, was accustomed to taking 10-minim doses of tincture of chloroform and morphine for insomnia and asthma. On September 12 he took about eighteen times that quantity and died. At an inquest held at the Beckenham District Council offices on September 15 into the death of Charles Hills, a Ilxtons painter, Mr. George Henry Mack, chemist and druggist, of 165 Beckenham Road, Penge, said he served deceased with a bottle of chlorodyne, and identified one of the bottles in wrapper (produced) found on deceased as having been bought at his shop. He knew that deceased occasionally purchased it for his employer's wife. However, he warned deceased that it was poisonous, and he replied that "those for whom he bought it knew well how to use it." Another bottle found on deceased was not supplied by witness. Dr. Silver, of Sydenham, said a *post-mortem* examination showed that deceased's heart, kidneys, and liver were diseased, and although deceased apparently recovered from the opium-poisoning set up by the chlorodyne, his heart was too weak to carry him on. The jury found that death was due to an overdose of chlorodyne taken by misadventure. The death of Mr. Fry, of Taunton, from chloral-poisoning, is dealt with elsewhere, as also are the cases of the child who took a poisonous stove-paste, and the tanner's labourer who died from tannic-acid poisoning. A Tottenham woman named Powley drank spirit of salt, and the manager of the refreshment-department at His Majesty's Theatre committed suicide with coal-gas.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Personal.

Mr. Richard Collis, of Dublin, not B. Collis, was elected M.P.S.I. at the last Council-meeting.

#### A Villa for Sale.

Palmerston Villa, Rathmines, the residence of the late Mr. George McMaster, of Messrs. McMaster, Holgson & Co., chemists and druggists, Capel Street, Dublin, is to be sold by public auction on September 24.

#### Tenders.

The following public Boards have advertised for medicine-tenders to be sent before the date mentioned:

Cork District Lunatic Asylum (September 23).

Rathmines and Pembroke Joint Hospital Board (September 22).

#### Returned.

In reference to a claim for empties made by Mr. H. V. Golden, pharmaceutical chemist, against the Birr Guardians, the dispensary doctors concerned—Drs. Farring and O'Regan—state that the empties were taken away from time to time by Mr. Golden's men, and they were surprised that no credit had been given for them.

#### Illegible and Unintelligible.

At the last meeting of the Birr Guardians a certificate of analysis of certain drugs was received from Sir Charles Cameron. Mr. Lowry said the certificate was badly written and was in terms which nobody could understand. It was ordered that the certificate of analysis be sent back to Sir Charles Cameron, and that he be requested to give the results of his analyses more intelligibly in future.

#### Holiday Granted.

Mr. M. S. Philson, pharmaceutical chemist, of the Tyrone and Fermanagh Asylum, applied to the last meeting of the Governors for a month's leave of absence, in addition to a fortnight which he had already obtained. Dr. Carre said the substitute sent in by Mr. Philson on the last occasion did not attend at the proper hours. The application was granted on the condition that Mr. Philson would appoint a properly qualified substitute.



### Unsatisfactory Drugs.

At the last meeting of the Cavan Guardians a letter was read from the Local Government Board requesting that the analyst's report on samples of drugs sent from Cavan dispensary be sent to the contractor, also that the quantity of drugs in stock be returned and a fresh supply of standard quality be supplied in lieu thereof.

### Business Changes.

Mr. H. I. Gorman, L.P.S.I., late of Hamilton, Long & Co. (Limited), State Apothecaries, Dublin, has started business on his own account at 126 The Quay, Waterford.

Mr. W. J. Rankin, who represents in Ireland, Messrs. Blyton, Astley & Co., Manchester, and Mr. Gustav Boehm, London, has removed to larger and more central offices at 11 Waring Street, Belfast, where samples of all stock will be kept.

### Developing Local Industries.

A series of magic-lantern entertainments at several large centres in the South of Ireland are to be organised by the Cork Industrial Development Association, with a view of bringing increased patronage to local manufacturers. At these entertainments lime-light views of local factories and industrial concerns will be shown and the public will be urged to support the home manufacturer's product wherever possible. A directory of local manufactures is also to be issued.

### Wants the Maker's Name.

At the last meeting of the Athlone Board of Guardians, Dr. Shanley submitted a number of articles received from the surgical-instrument contractor; only one of them, he said, bore the name of the maker. He asked the Board to inquire from the L.G.B. if he was maker of good repute, as he had never seen instruments made by the same firm. Dr. Shanley said the instruments should be stamped by a maker of repute, otherwise the contractor could easily palm off cheap or inferior articles on the Guardians. It was decided to return the articles to the contractor.

### Medicine Delayed.

At a meeting of the Banbridge Guardians on September 14, complaints were received from Dr. Martin and Dr. Taylor with reference to the delay in delivering medicines and the deficiencies in medicines ordered from the contractor. The latter, in his reply, laid the blame on the railway company.

The Local Government Board have written to the Drogheda Guardians pointing out that certain medicines ordered for the Union were not delivered till ten days after the order for them was given. Dr. Adrian said it was dangerous when the medicines were not promptly delivered. It was decided to call the attention of the drug-contractor to the matter.

### L.G.B. Decisions.

The Local Government Board have approved of the appointment of Mr. W. H. O'N. Lyon as temporary apothecary of the Boyle Union, at a salary of one guinea per week.

The Local Government Board have refused to recoup the Currick-on-Suir Guardians for certain expenditure in respect of medicines, as the articles ordered were not in the prescribed list of the L.G.B.

At the last meeting of the Castleblayney Board of Guardians a letter was read from the Local Government Board disallowing recoupment in respect of the sum of 8s. 6d. (for the Ballybay dispensary district) because it was the cost of articles not named in the Board's prescribed list.

The Donegal Guardians also received a letter from the Local Government Board disallowing 15s. 9d. in respect of the workhouse and the Donegal dispensary district, one item being for serum which was not obtained from the contractor for medicines, and another being an error in the total of an invoice.

At the Ardee Guardians' meeting last week, a letter was read from the Local Government Board stating that recoupment could not be allowed in respect of a sum of 14s. 5d. included in the statement in the case of the Dunleer dispensary district, being the cost of articles authorised for use in the workhouse hospital only.

The Local Government Board wrote to last meeting of the Cashel Guardians requesting that the medical officer of the Cashel dispensary district be called on to explain why samples of drugs delivered at the dispensary on July 13 last, did not reach the Clerk for transmission to the analyst until August 18. The matter was referred to Dr. Cusack for explanation.

### Pharmaceutical Council Election.

Considerable interest is manifested in Dublin pharmaceutical circles in the approaching elections to the Council of the Society. Messrs. O'Sullivan (Waterford), Doig (Belfast), Professor Tichborne (Dublin), Dr. M. R. Whitla (Monaghan), W. V. Johnston (Ranelagh), T. N. Moffatt (Belfast), and T. Batt (Sandy Mount) are the councillors who retire by rotation, and all, with the exception of Mr. O'Sullivan, offer themselves for re-election. Dr. J. A. Walsh (Dublin), a former member of the Council, has consented to stand on the official platform in conjunction with the retiring councillors, and so far no others have been nominated. In the event of Mr. George D. Beggs declining re-election as President, it is likely that Mr. Johnston Montgomery will be nominated for that position. Mr. Montgomery is Vice-President and a Belfast man—but these are the days of provincial Presidents.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Poisonings.

Duncan McKerracher (25), a joiner, died in the Glasgow Western Infirmary, September 12, from laudanum-poisoning. He had been out of employment for a week, and two empty phials which had contained laudanum were discovered at the bedside.—A case of accidental poisoning which did not prove fatal occurred at Hawick on September 12, a boy named Thomline being given in mistake a tablespoonful of laudanum instead of essence of senna. On the error being discovered a doctor was summoned, and the stomach-pump and other remedies were applied in time to save the child's life.

### The Doctor Objects.

At a meeting of the Annan Parish Council on September 7 Mr. McLean read a letter from a firm of Edinburgh solicitors on behalf of their client, Dr. Howie, medical officer, Annan, stating that for several years past Mr. McLean had taken every opportunity of speaking opprobriously of their client, and had maliciously endeavoured to injure his personal and professional reputation. The last occasion was the meeting of the Annan Parish Council on July 6, when, in support of a motion by him for the termination of the existing agreement between the Council and their client as medical officer, he falsely submitted that the medicines kept by their client and supplied to patients were not fresh, but deteriorated by being kept long in stock. The letter asked Mr. McLean to apologise. Mr. McLean said he had only spoken on the general principle, and had made no attack on Dr. Howie.

### Preliminary Examination at Inverurie.

At the College of Preceptors' examination held at Inverurie in July last, to enable apprentice druggists to qualify, five candidates sat, and the results have now been declared. Alex. R. Mackie (Inverurie School) passed in all the necessary subjects; William Lee (Fraserburgh) passed in English, completing his certificate; James Cameron (Inverurie) passed in Latin and French and completed his certificate; Mitchell S. Harvey (Kemnay) passed in five subjects, but owing to a cycle breakdown, which prevented her getting to the examination in time, she will have to take the sixth subject (geometry) on another occasion; Hector Taylor (Aberdeen) passed in arithmetic, French, and Latin. These results are highly gratifying to all concerned, and especially to Mr. Philip, who inaugurated the examination. The next examination is to take place on December 8 and following days, when a large entry is assured. Those who wish to enter for it should address Mr. Jas. Philip, M.A., head-master, Public Schools, Inverurie.



## Right of Access.

In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on September 9, Lord Trayner had before him a note of suspension and interdict by Robert Stenhouse, chemist, Musselburgh, against Thomas Mitchell, hat-manufacturer, Musselburgh. The complainant sought to interdict the respondent from hindering his making use of a lane which gives access to the back portion of premises occupied by him at 75 and 77 High Street, Musselburgh. The complainant stated that the respondent had recently been removing parcels and boxes belonging to him, and placed by him temporarily in the lane in the vicinity of his cellar-door. The respondent said he had full right to the lane, and that the complainant only used it on his toleration. Lord Trayner, in view of the respondent's assurance that the reasonable use of the lane for access for deposition of goods would not be interfered with, found it unnecessary to grant interim interdict.

## Educational Appointments.

At a special meeting of the Governors of Heriot Trust held at Edinburgh on September 4, four appointments to the teaching staff of the Heriot-Watt College were made. These were chief lecturer in mathematics, salary 300*l.*; assistant professor of mechanical engineering, salary 225*l.*; assistant professor of physics and electrical engineering, salary 225*l.*; assistant professor of chemistry, salary 225*l.* per annum. The new Mathematical Lecturer is Roderick McLeod Shearer, M.A., B.Sc., Edinburgh. The Physics appointment went to Mr. W. Mansergh Varley, B.A., M.Sc., Ph.D., who was educated at Longwood Grammar School, Huddersfield Technical College, and Yorkshire College, Leeds. He graduated at Victoria College in 1898 and at Strasburg in 1901. At present he is engaged in research work in Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He took the B.A. research degree at Cambridge this year. The Chemistry Assistantship was gained by Mr. Bertram D. Steele, D.Sc., London, assistant professor of chemistry, McGill University, Montreal. Mr. Steele was educated in science at Melbourne University, where he graduated in 1899. In the same year he was appointed acting professor of Adelaide University, and was awarded an 1851 research scholarship. He left Australia in 1899, and commenced research-work with Professor Norman Collie, London. He prosecuted his studies at Breslau and University College, London, and was appointed senior demonstrator at McGill University last year.

## Glasgow Notes.

Mr. T. N. Johnstone, chemist and druggist has opened a business at 412 Springburn Road, Springburn, Glasgow.

The annual bowling-match between rinks representing wholesale and retail chemists in Glasgow took place on September 12 on Queen's Park bowling-green. An enjoyable and well-contested game resulted in favour of the retailers by two shots. The following gives the details of the game:

Wholesale.			Retail.		
J. Walker			G. S. Kitchen		
Frew			H. Lambie		
D. Houston			G. Robertson		
J. Cairncross (Skip)	...	19	W. L. Currie (Skip)	...	20
D. Sinclair			D. Watson		
W. E. Taylor			R. Gordon		
H. Thomson			T. Adam		
W. Greig (Skip)	...	18	W. S. Galbraith (Skip)	...	19
Shots	...	37	Shots	...	39

Refreshments were served in the conservatory, and the result of the game announced by Mr. W. L. Currie, who was also called upon to present a prize, in the shape of a gold badge, which Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. had given for competition. The winner, Mr. D. Houston, was congratulated on the excellent form he had exhibited in all his ties. Mr. Taylor presented a brief-bag to the runner-up in the competition; this was won by Mr. John Walker. Mr. Mungo Wallace was thanked for carrying out all the arrangements in connection with the various games. Before separating, Mr. Wm. Greig intimated that he would have pleasure in presenting two prizes to be competed for next year by chemists in Glasgow and neighbourhood. The arrangements were left in the hands of a small committee.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent)

**HOSPITAL PHARMACY.**—From a recently published document I learn that the number of head hospital pharmacists at Paris is now twenty-three, and they are assisted by 145 "internes," or house-pharmacists. The largest pharmacies are those of St-Antoine, Tenon, and Lariboisière, in each of which are employed eleven house-pharmacists.

**THE FLY-NUISANCE** has been prevalent in Paris during the late hot weather, and fly-papers were in great demand, but Dr. Bordas, of the Paris municipal laboratory, says prevention is better than cure. The fly deposits its eggs in putrid matter, and in large towns urinals and cesspools are its favourite places. To get rid of the eggs mix 2 lbs. of sulphate of iron, the same quantity of sulphate of copper, 10 lbs. of chloride of zinc, and about 3 oz. of carbolic acid, in a 10- or 12-gal. barrel of water; use that as a disinfectant for the places referred to.

**THE CONVENT PHARMACIST.**—Sister Ephrasie, of the *Sœurs de la Sagesse*, was acquitted by the Brest Police Court of the charge of illegal practice of medicine and pharmacy. The following extract from the judgment was, let us hope, dictated by the Magistrate's appreciation of Sister Ephrasie's devotion, and need not be taken as a sample of the pitiless logic of the law:

It appears that Sister Ephrasie only administered simple and easily made preparations, demanding no special knowledge, such as syrups, decoctions, quinine, and purgatives. One cannot consider as a medicamentous preparation the solution in water of the bromide of potassium prescribed by Dr. Farvaque, and given by the Sister to Mme. Bougaen.

**A HERBALIST FINED.**—M. Duceurgolly, herbalist, of Nogent-le-Rotrou, was condemned in 1902 for illegal practice of pharmacy, but benefited by the First Offenders Act. He continued, however, and has just been reconvicted. Sulphate of magnesia, antipyrin, lacto-phosphate of lime, paregoric elixir, granulated kola, and castor oil were sold or offered for sale in his establishment; and corrosive sublimate, cantharides, laudanum, &c., were used by him without keeping a poisons-book or poisons-cupboard. The Pharmacists' Syndicate, who prosecuted, were awarded 8*l.* damages and costs. Duceurgolly was fined 32*l.*, the Court refusing to accept his defence that "certain articles were sold as perfumery, others for veterinary medicine, and the rest were for his personal use."

**A VICHY CLAIM.**—The various hospitals in the town and district of Vichy have long claimed that the company which worked the springs under licence from the State was bound, according to certain privileges, to pay the hospital authorities a toll of one halfpenny for every bottle of water drawn from the new springs. The company disputed this claim, and the hospital authorities thereupon brought an action against the company. After much litigation the issue has been decided by the *Riom* Appeal Court, which gives judgment in favour of the company. An annual rental of 4,000*l.* is paid to the State by the company for the right of exploiting the springs. Next year, however, the agreement with the Government stipulates that the rental is to be raised from 4,000*l.* to 36,000*l.*

**WAS RICHELIEU BORN AT THE PHARMACIE CENTRALE?**—The fine old mansion in the rue du Jouy, now used as the Parisian headquarters of this well-known drug-house, is supposed by M. Sellier, assistant keeper of the *Carnavalet* (Paris Historical) Museum, to be where Richelieu was born. M. Hanotaux (ex-Minister) has proved that the baptismal certificate of the great cardinal gives his parents' address as rue du Bouloi, but this address had been added in the margin; and it is well known that Richelieu was not baptised till he was eight months old. The mansion belonged to the Du Plessis (Richelieu's family) at the time, and *Abbé Baudrand's* work, published in 1681, distinctly states the great statesman was born at the Hotel d'Aumont, the present home of the *Pharmacie Centrale de France*.

**BUBONIC PLAGUE AT MARSEILLES.**—A serious rumour prevailed in Paris at the end of last week regarding an outbreak of the bubonic plague at the port of Marseilles.



Definite form was given later to the matter by the announcement that germs of the plague had been taken to a large cardboard factory of the town through carcasses of rats found in bales of rags shipped from Constantinople. Five deaths from the plague were announced, and nearly twenty suspected cases. A sanitary committee was speedily installed at Marseilles, and Dr. Chantemesse, expert of the anti-plague serum, was summoned from Paris, and large supplies of the serum were requisitioned from the Pasteur Institute. This vigorous action on the part of the authorities seems to have been the means of checking the spread of the outbreak.

"A LITTLE WINE FOR THE STOMACH'S SAKE" was the text of Dr. Peton's communication to the French Congress for the Advancement of Sciences sitting at Angers. He referred to it as a useful stimulant of digestion and general nutrition. On the other hand, he classed water as being full of microbes, while beer and cider dilute the stomach. Quoting Pasteur's theorem, "Wine is the antidote of alcohol," Dr. Peton insisted on the well-known fact that (in France, at least) drunkenness is rare in wine-growing districts and prevalent in the cider-drinking West and beer-drinking North. "If it were not our national beverage," concluded Dr. Peton, "we should have had to invent it as a medicinal remedy." The worthy doctor, by the way, is Mayor of Saumur, but connoisseurs of the still or sparkling products of his district will fully endorse his little special pleading, "*pro domo suo*."

**EFFORTS TO SECURE FOREIGN TRADE.**—A party of French exporters is to visit the Levant for the purpose of studying its trading possibilities. They have secured the support of a great many geographical societies, chambers of commerce, and industrial unions in France, Algiers, and Tunis, and by means of personal contact with the merchants of the Levant, they hope to be able to form new and profitable trade connections. Teachers and scholars of the higher-grade commercial schools are expected to join the party, which is to sail from Marseilles about the middle of October on a steamer chartered for the trip, and expects to visit every important city in the Levant, including Constantinople, Smyrna, Salonica, Athens, &c. The members of the French Chamber of Commerce at Constantinople are to aid in every way to secure such information as will help to make the expedition successful.

**"MUTUALIST PHARMACIES"** (as the *officines* founded and run by benefit societies are called) are pointed to by many as the last straw that will break the back of French pharmacy. While political and social reformers point with satisfaction to the ever-increasing popularity of these societies, pharmacists see their clients drifting away to these special stores. The French pharmacist is often accused of sitting inert and crying to some legislative Jove to lift his cart. Occasionally, however, he can put his shoulder to the wheel with the best of his fellow-traders. Witness, for instance, the "Bordeaux agreement"—a special tariff, now some forty years old, which has given such entire satisfaction to members of the local benefit societies that no "mutual" pharmacy has ever reared its head at the mouth of the Gironde. It is not, perhaps, too late to save the situation by vigorous and united action. As a speaker told a recent important gathering of southern pharmacists, mutualist pharmacies do not necessarily pay their way. He insisted on the fact that at Lyons the mutualist pharmacy is kept up by a yearly subvention of 4,800*l.* from the Chamber of Commerce; the Limoges establishment has just closed its first year's transactions with a deficit of 160*l.*; and the books of the Marseilles mutual for the last seven years have shown a balance of some 20*l.* to 30*l.* per annum on the wrong side. The manager of a mutualist pharmacy is often a retired pharmacist, who thus supplements his modest competency without further risking his capital. A curious case arising out of this state of things has just been decided at Toulouse. On October 21, 1901, M. D—, pharmacist, disposed of the business there for 320*l.* The deed of sale contained a clause by which the vendor engaged himself not to set up in business at Toulouse "directly or indirectly." In April, 1902, he took a situation as manager of the *officine* belonging to the Pharmaceutical Union of Mutual Benefit Societies of the Haute-Garonne. The Court held that this was a breach of contract, and condemned M. D— to pay 12*l.* damages and 8*l.* a day while he retained his position of manager.

**THE POISONING-CASE AT SAINT-CLAR**, to which I briefly called attention last week, seems likely to take the proportions of a sensational case, and the Paris daily newspapers have been daily devoting a good deal of space to the subject, while in the locality where the crime occurred public feeling has been running very high. Also the prejudice against Mme. Galtié, who is accused of poisoning her husband and brother (a pharmacist), appears to be increasing. Two expert chemists of Bordeaux, M.M. Blarez and Denigès, together with Dr. Lande, have been commissioned to make an analysis of the dead man's viscera. The rumours and interviews published by enterprising reporters are very highly coloured, and almost all tend to condemn Mme. Galtié before any practical evidence has been brought forward—an amiable custom much prevalent in France. Meanwhile she is safely incarcerated and energetically protests that she is innocent of any crime. Her husband appears to have been in rather failing health, but her brother, the pharmacist, M. J. G. Dupont, who was thirty-seven years old, was robust enough, and he died somewhat suddenly at his sister's house under sufficiently suspicious circumstances. Then there are several purchases of arsenic to be accounted for, and it is these that have caused all the trouble and led to the prisoner's house being placarded with posters bearing the word "poisoner." I referred last week to certain questions of life insurance in favour of the prisoner, and may add that Mme. Galtié does not appear to have enjoyed much personal popularity at Saint-Clar, which is in itself much to her detriment in a country town under present circumstances. It is interesting to know what the pharmacist has to say who supplied the arsenic which is supposed to have been used by Mme. Galtié. He is M. Rouède, of Saint-Clar. He was a personal friend of M. Galtié, and when the prisoner came with a prescription from a veterinary surgeon for arsenic to be used for the purpose of killing rats he supplied it. But this was not until July of the present year, and M. Rouède claims that if M. Galtié was poisoned, the arsenic was not brought at his (Rouède's) pharmacy. The death of M. Dupont, the pharmacist, last month is of such recent date that all the details connected with it are fresh in M. Rouède's memory. The prisoner came to him and complained that her brother, who was unwell, could not sleep on account of the noise made by rats in the house. She obtained arsenic from the pharmacist always on the vet.'s prescription, though M. Rouède says he felt a little uneasy in giving it (what pharmacist has not felt that uneasy feeling after supplying that which he ought not?). The same night M. Dupont died, and since then M. Rouède has passed more than one sleepless night. In due course the case will no doubt be threshed out at the Assizes, and we shall once more be treated to all the wearisome technicalities for and against the possibility of tracing poisoning by arsenic.

## East Indian News.

**AN ACCIDENT** at an ice-factory at Benares on August 22 resulted in six deaths. A leakage of ether from a pipe occurred, and the assistant manager went to investigate matters with a light. The room was set on fire, and all its occupants severely burned.

**A LARGE NUMBER** of PERSONS engaged in the "sweet toddy" and jaggery (molasses) industry in the Tinnevely district have submitted a long memorial to the Madras Government on certain disabilities imposed upon them by the Abkari Acts and rules. What the Tinnevely memorialists complain about is the strictness of the regulations, which interfere with and harass them in the pursuit of their calling.

**THE CLASS** for chemists and druggists in the Madras Medical College is to be abolished next year. The reason for this is said to be that there is not a sufficient number of pupils to warrant its continuance. The preliminary examination for admission to the class is stated by the *Madras Times* to be the cause of the dearth of applicants, and the *Times* states that "no doubt, if the standard of education is lowered, pupils will not be wanting for this class."



## Colonial and Foreign News.

MR. R. B. G. ROSE, chemist, Sydney, N.S.W., has purchased the business in Mackay, Queensland, carried on for the past twelve years by Mr. Charles Morley, pharmaceutical chemist.

A NEW AD.—A pill-manufacturer of Oakland, California, to advertise his goods, bought a noted trotting-horse, changed its name to "Brakeson's Liver-pill," and has issued a challenge to race one of the champion trotters of the United States for 5,000/. The challenge has been accepted.

SICILIAN LIQUORICE-JUICE.—The principal centre of the liquorice-industry in Sicily is at Catania, and the output of juice there is estimated at between 300 and 500 tons annually, while Messina turns out from 100 to 150 tons every year. The towns of Palermo, Caltagirone, Terranova, Termini, and Trapani are all producers to a smaller extent. Sicily produces wild liquorice-root to the extent of about 1,000 tons per annum. This is not, however, sufficient for the requirements of manufacturers of the juice, who are obliged to import root from Greece and Turkey. During 1902 it was estimated that about 4,000 tons were imported, and it usually requires 6 tons of root to make 1 ton of juice. The juice, as is well known, is principally employed in sweetening tobacco.

GERMAN PHARMACY.—The Prussian Minister of Education recently announced, in reference to the proposed reorganisation of the regulations regarding pharmacy concessions, that it is intended to consider the question of the advisability of those owners of pharmacies who obtain concessions paying a tax based on the returns of their business. Should these regulations be enforced, they will probably also include those pharmacists who obtained the concessions from July 1 of the present year. Otherwise there is no special development of the agitation which has been so long proceeding in the empire with the view to securing greater freedom of action for pharmacists.—The President of the German Pharmaceutical Society has received a notification from the Minister of Education to the effect that the petition made by the Society on June 18 has been granted (it had previously been presented in 1901 and 1902), and that it is therefore no longer necessary for pharmacists employing no assistants to obtain special official permission each time they engage a pupil. This means that in future the single-handed pharmacist will have to obtain a general permission only to take a pupil.

TRADE IN PERU.—The following figures represent the imports of drugs and chemical products into Peru from 1898 to 1902. They are interesting as showing that Germany, the United States, Italy, and Belgium are increasing their trade in these lines, while the United Kingdom, which formerly stood at the top, has been outstripped by Germany:

—	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902
	£	£	£	£	£
U.K. ...	41,514	38,922	30,327	40,333	28,075
Germany ...	13,988	21,273	20,506	23,296	29,146
U.S.A. ...	6,699	9,248	12,146	16,221	16,820
France ...	5,818	9,129	13,182	12,052	11,742
Italy ...	3,933	4,308	3,937	5,174	6,234
Belgium ...	716	2,381	2,817	3,057	5,251
China ...	1,171	1,663	9,071	2,657	2,276
Chili ...	778	1,814	203	417	2,050
Spain ...	266	127	178	267	353
Other countries ...	5,063	3,906	4,723	233	2,612

Turning to the total import trade of Peru, the United Kingdom stands pre-eminent, her share of the three millions odd pounds' worth imported last year being well over one-third—viz., 1,113,000/. The United States is a poor second with 591,000/, and Germany third with 517,000/.

GERMAN SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—The report of the German Ammonia Syndicate of Bochum for 1902 states that the year has throughout been signalised by favourable conditions in the production and disposal of sulphate of ammonia,

being in marked contrast in this respect to the preceding year. English competition, especially active during the first half of 1902, was lessened by a continued advance of prices. Though the total imports into Germany were practically the same as in 1901—44,250 tons against 44,400, of which 32,000 and 33,000 respectively were from Great Britain—the syndicate was able to work off its production, inclusive of 9,000 tons of old stock. "If these results," says the report, "are due in the first place to our firmness in maintaining prices, they are also partly due to the increasing appreciation of sulphate of ammonia as a manure, and of its value to agriculture, in which it is taking the place hitherto occupied by Chilean saltpetre." The total production of the syndicated works in 1902 was 57,000 tons, and was considerably influenced during much of the period by the limitation of coke production. The production of ammoniacal liquid increased considerably, being 18,559 tons in 1902, as compared with 9,519 tons in 1901. The report states that the total production of the world in sulphate of ammonia is about 135,000 tons in Germany, 222,000 in England, 40,000 in France, 38,000 in Holland, Belgium, &c., 45,000 in other European countries, 65,000 in the United States. The syndicate's efforts to open new markets for sulphate of ammonia were continued during the year, including extensive experimental work in connection with viticulture. The Eintracht-Tiefbau Colliery Company, of Steele-Ruhr, the Minister Achenbach Works, and the Harpen Mining Company have joined the syndicate during the year.

RUSSIAN NOTES.—In spite of the circular of the Medical Council forbidding the use of salicylic acid in foodstuffs, its use in trade grows more and more. Saccharin is also growing in consumption, particularly for fruit drinks.—A report of the Imperial Bacteriological Institute of the Moscow University states, *inter alia*, that during the past year, for the production of antiphtheritic serum, twelve horses were used and 21,670 phials of serum were furnished, of which part went to Moscow, and the rest was distributed elsewhere. Antitetanic and other serums were likewise made. Owing to the increased strength of the antiphtheritic serum obtained the Institute was enabled to reduce the price from 1r. to 85 kopeks per phial. The antitetanic serum was little asked for. The department of bacteriological research was well supported, twenty-one physicians, nine vets., and one chemist working in it.—The *Novoe Vremya* reports that one of the finest passenger-steamers on the Volga narrowly escaped destruction through oil of vitriol and aqua fortis leaking into the hold, and eating through to the hull. The acids had been loaded as druggists' goods without a proper description.—Dr. Marmorek, of Moscow, a specialist in serums, is reported to have discovered a new antiphthisis serum.—Some novelties in doctors have made their appearance in St. Petersburg, and success attends them. One, called Gorbuna, heals all human disorders, including evil spirits which he exorcises, or when wanted he can bring on such. The other makes a speciality of children's troubles. He is a butcher who goes by the name of Michael Chistyakoff. He takes his patients into a room, lays them down, whispers some form of abracadabra, anoints them with a grease which he takes up on his finger, then, whispering fresh mysteries, he greases the child's lips. After this the patient begins to improve. He charges nothing for his advice and services, but each visitor has to put 30 kopeks in a dish "for oil."—During 1902 the St. Petersburg City Laboratory made 2,456 analyses. Of these 855 were paid for and 185 were free; 1,416 being for the administration. The reports show that 20.31 per cent. of the samples examined were of bad quality, and 14.73 per cent. were adulterated. The number of bacteriological analyses was 4,021, chiefly as to water, milk, and beef. Out of 3,231 analyses in respect to diphtheria, 797 showed the diphtheritic bacillus.—For admission to the pharmaceutical course opened this year by the Medical Faculty of the Novorossisk University up to the present about fifty students have applied. They were all of the Jewish persuasion.—The special commission appointed to inquire into the manufacture of seltzer-water and fruit-essences by the Governor of Odessa has finished its work. Out of forty establishments, thirty-two had been reconstructed and are furnished with distilling-apparatus, and eight are in process of transformation.



## Legal Reports.

### Trade Law.

**What is a Male Servant?**—At the Pontypridd Police Court on September 16, W. J. Leslie, of the Welsh Artificial Teeth Company, was summoned at the instance of the Inland Revenue Department for keeping a male servant without a licence. Evidence was given by Mr. Dickson (Revenue officer), who said he had kept under observation for a month a man employed by the defendant, and had seen him on several dates grooming and cleaning the stables, and cleaning the harness and traps. Mr. D. Rees, for the defence, called evidence to show that the man was only partially engaged by the defendant, and the Bench dismissed the summons.

**Lavatory-conveniences for Lead-workers.**—In a case heard at Cardiff on September 11, in which Blacklock & McArthur, paint-manufacturers, were summoned for infringement of the Factory Act, one of the two charges being that they had failed to provide washing-conveniences with a sufficient supply of hot water, the inspector of factories (Mr. Angus Lewis) said it appeared a supply of hot water could be obtained when the engine was working, but the men had to climb up a ladder and dip a bucket in the cylinder. It was questionable whether this was a suitable convenience within the meaning of the Act. On the day the inspector called, however, the engine was not working, and there was not any hot water at all. For the defence, it was mentioned that the Home Office consulted Mr. McArthur on various occasions as an expert, and the Chairman of the Bench said that was one reason why the Home Office should make it hotter for him. A fine of 40s. and costs was imposed in each case.

**An Acetic-acid Transaction.**—On September 9, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., at the City of London Court, an action was brought by Messrs. Reitmeyer & Co., chemical-merchants, 1 Rangoon Street, against Messrs. T. Robinson & Co., West Bank, Openshaw, Manchester, to recover the sum of 9*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* for acetic acid supplied. The defendants paid 3*l.* into court and counter-claimed for the balance. After hearing the evidence and counsel, Judge Rentoul said it was beyond a doubt that the acetic acid did not go by the boat for which it was intended, but the plaintiffs could do no more than send the goods to the wharf. It was quite clear that the defendants had suffered loss, and had had to buy elsewhere, but that was not the fault of the plaintiffs. Judgment must be given, therefore, for the plaintiffs on the claim and counterclaim with costs. Mr. Marriott said he thought it was only fair to add that the defendants had purchased acetic acid of a higher quality than that contracted for, and consequently they had really suffered no damage at all by buying elsewhere.

**A Conscientious Traveller.**—In the City of London Court on September 9, before Mr. Assistant Registrar Tattershall, Mr. H. E. Cantwell, 18 Kenilworth Square, Dublin, sued Messrs. Tugwood & Wilton, Weaver's Hall, 22 Basinghall Street, for the sum of 2*l.*, wages alleged to be due. The plaintiff's case was that in March last he was approached by the defendants to represent them, and push the sale of disinfectants manufactured by them, in Ireland. The plaintiff's engagement was for one month's trial at 1*l.* a week and 10 per cent. commission on orders received. Before commencing to travel for the defendants he (plaintiff) fell ill, and when he did commence his duties he found he could not obtain orders for the defendants' goods. He had written to the defendants explaining the circumstances, and stating that he did not like taking their money, being unable to get any orders. In cross-examination plaintiff said he had travelled previously for the Dublin Sundries Company, which belonged to his father and dealt in chemists' sundries. For the defence Mr. Tugwood gave evidence, and thereafter the Assistant Registrar entered judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed and 3*l.* for expenses.

### Dentists Act.

#### AN AMERICAN DIPLOMA.

JACQUES FLAX, of 167 Tottenham Court Road, W., appeared before Mr. Marham at Bw Street, on September 14, to two summonses charging him with advertising in such a way as to falsely imply and lead people to suppose that he was a registered dentist.

Mr. Turner, who supported the summonses on behalf of the British Dental Association, explained that the summonses referred to an advertisement in a German newspaper, and a business-card bearing the following announcement:

High-class artificial teeth at moderate charges. Complete sets 2*l.* 2*s.*, without springs or wires. Also on ebonite. Ordinary extractions 1*s.*, painless extractions by a new process 3*s.* American crownbridge and bar work. Stoppings in gold and enamel. Mr. Flax, gold medallist, attends personally.

Counsel proceeded to say that anyone might practise dentistry in this country so long as he did not use any phrases calculated to induce people to think that they were getting skilled advice or treatment. In some of his advertisements, said counsel, the defendant mentioned that he held French and American diplomas, and that he had successfully practised with first-class English dentists. That was sufficient in itself, Mr. Turner contended, to lead anyone to infer that he was a duly qualified man. The gold medal mentioned by the defendant was obtained by him at the Paris Exhibition for the manufacture of artificial teeth, and was not awarded by any hospital, as anyone reading the words "gold medallist" in connection with the other part of the advertisement would assume.

Mr. Fletcher Brown, managing clerk to the solicitors to the British Dental Association, said that when he called upon the defendant the latter was very frank, and offered to expunge from the advertisement anything that might be considered objectionable. The defendant said he was fully qualified to practise dentistry in America and France, but was not registered in England. Cross-examined, the witness said he had reason to believe that the defendant was a very good dentist. Some registered dentists advertised in the newspapers, but the Medical Council, he believed, objected to advertisements.

Mr. Frampton, barrister (for the defence), contended that it was not a case in which the defendant had held himself out to be a qualified English dentist. On his cards he gave an impress of his medal, which showed clearly that it was awarded at the Paris Exhibition, and there had been no attempt to deceive. When the defendant arrived in England he applied for an English diploma, but asked to be allowed to forego the Preliminary examination, as he did not care to go to school again, as it were. That was refused, and he found that it would take him about five years to get on the register, and cost him about 500*l.* Counsel added that a great many American dentists carried on their profession in England without being on the English register.

Mr. Turner said that was so. It was possible to get a diploma in America in twelve months, the examination being of a very fragmentary kind, but foreign diplomas were not recognised in England. If diplomas were granted in England to American dentists, as such, it would not be fair to English dentists.

Mr. Marham (the Magistrate) said, in his opinion, the defendant had gone a little too far, although he was not an ignorant man preying on the public, and he must pay a fine of 40*s.* on each of the two summonses, and 3*l.* 3*s.* costs.

In answer to Mr. Frampton, the Magistrate expressed his willingness to state a case.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### FORMALIN IN MILK.

AT the Belfast Summons Court on Monday, September 14, Henry Speedie, a farmer, was summoned, under Section 6 of the 1875 Act, for selling milk to which formalin in the proportion of 1 part per 10,300 in one sample and 1 in 10,800 in another had been added, as certified by Mr. Barklie, the city analyst. The case created considerable interest in local drug-circles, as it was the first of the kind in Ireland. Mr. Barklie, in the course of his evidence on behalf of the prosecution, stated that the presence of the preservative in any quantity was not only injurious but dangerous to health, because the substance was an active poison, and in the hands of unskilled persons became a great and positive danger to the community. He also mentioned that at the Departmental Committee's inquiry it was proved by one of the most distinguished men of the day that it is a dangerous poison, and the Committee recommended that its use be prohibited as a preservative in all substances.

Dr. Whitaker (medical officer of health) gave confirmatory evidence. He described formalin as a poison. In many cases its presence in milk would be dangerous, especially to young children, with whom it would be liable to bring on diarrhoea. He knew that the formalin is added not as an adulterant but as a preservative, and it would keep milk for a long time, giving it an appearance of freshness which it otherwise would not have.

Mr. McElean (for the defence) read a quotation from a



statement by Dr. S. Rideal to the effect that formalin is harmless as a preservative for beer and wine.

Dr. Whitaker: But you have alcohol there.

Mr. McErlean also read an extract from "Pharmaceutical Formulas," as follows:

Formalin is now largely employed by dairymen for preserving milk. One teaspoonful of formalin suffices to keep 10 gals. of milk perfectly sweet for three days in hot weather. Fresh meat may be preserved by putting a few drops of formalin in the dish, and placing a good-fitting cover over it; or the surface of the meat may be rubbed with a cloth damped with formalin.

Dr. Whitaker: It is not always gospel that is published in a book.

Mr. McErlean, for the defence, argued that the prosecution had not proved the case, and as the milk had been taken at the station without defendant's knowledge there was no sale and no purchase within the meaning of the Act.

Mr. Spiller (prosecuting counsel) said the railway porter who had charge of the cans was agent of the seller. It was impossible to communicate with the defendant when the samples were taken.

The Magistrates supported this view.

Mr. David Boyd, pharmaceutical chemist, Belfast, said that, from the authorities with which he was acquainted, formalin used in the quantities stated to be found in the defendant's milk is distinctly harmless.

Dr. Tweedie stated that the quantities of formalin found in defendant's milk would not be injurious to life. Witness, in reply to Mr. Spiller, disagreed with Dr. Hill, the city analyst of Birmingham, when he said that formalin hardened albuminous matters, and made them very much more difficult to digest.

Henry Speedie, the defendant, also gave evidence.

Mr. Nagle, in giving the judgment of the Court, said personally he could not imagine any more grave form of adulteration in milk than the insertion into it of a quantity, however small, of a poison, especially one so ardent as this preparation of formalin was, as anyone who had any practical knowledge of chemistry must know it was to a certain extent. He was satisfied that the eminent gentlemen who gave their evidence there gave it according to their experience and the views they took, but experts differed. The Magistrates were clearly of opinion that an offence had been committed, and they regarded the introduction of this preparation as a very serious adulteration. If any more cases of this kind were brought forward, he certainly would impose the full penalty. Mr. Speedie had given his evidence in a very straightforward way, and they would therefore reduce the penalty to one-fourth, making it a fine of 5s.

#### CAMPHORATED OIL.

At the Llanhilleth Police Court on Tuesday, September 15, James Henry Godwin, manager of the Llanhilleth branch of the Blaenau Industrial Co-operative Society, was summoned for selling camphorated oil which was certified by Mr. Geo. Thomson, county analyst, to be 10 per cent. deficient in camphor. In the course of the hearing, Mr. Thomson said camphor cost five times more than the oil, and, in reply to Mr. Dolman, he said he considered the deficiency very serious. The law prescribed 21 per cent. of camphor in the oil, and the sample showed only 19 per cent. Defendant said the oil was sold precisely in the condition he received it from the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The last consignment of camphorated oil he received was in 1902. The Bench imposed a fine of 25s.

### Indecent Advertisements Act.

#### A BOX OF PILLS.

At the Marylebone Police Court on September 10, Mr. Chichele Plowden heard evidence on a summons issued at the instance of the Commissioner of Police against Frederic Neal, chemist and druggist, manager of a shop of Needhams (Limited), at 297 Edgware Road, for exhibiting to public view in the window of the shop printed matter of an indecent nature. Mr. W. T. Ricketts, jun., solicitor, defended.

P.S. Hassey, 8 F, deposed that at 9.30 P.M., on August 17, he saw in the shop-window of Needhams' (Limited) drug-stores nine parcels with labels as follows:

Vause's V 17 pills. A world-renowned cure for gonorrhoea or clap

gleets, spermatorrhoea, whites, gravel, smarting, and all discharges from the urinary organs, whether constitutional or acquired. Sold in boxes, 4s. 6d. size for 3s., at Vause's drug-stores, 297 Edgware Road, London, W. Take one pill, three times a day. [The original is a circular label 1½ inch in diameter.]

He entered the shop and told the defendant he should report him for exposing the printed matter to public view. The defendant replied, "Yes; you refer to what comes after pills." Witness replied that that was so, and told the defendant he should report him for a summons under Section 3 of the Indecent Advertisement Acts, 1889.

Witness was cross-examined at some length with a view to showing that four similar cases which had been taken against other retailers in other courts had been dismissed. In the course of the questioning it transpired that pending the hearing of the summons the pills were not being exhibited.

Mr. Ricketts for the defence contended that there was an absolute answer to the summons inasmuch as what was complained of did not come within the statute. This was not the first time the matter had been before the courts. It had been discussed at considerable length before Mr. Bros and Mr. Hopkins, and again at Bow Street, where the Magistrate took a week to consider his decision, and in each instance the summons was dismissed.

The Magistrate: The same advertisement?

Mr. Ricketts: A similar one. Continuing, Mr. Ricketts pointed out that Section 3 of the Act provides that it shall be an offence to do certain things, and the words he wished particularly to draw attention to were the following:

(Whoever) exhibits to public view in the window of any house or shop any picture or printed or written matter which is of an indecent or obscene nature.

He did not think that the advertisement could be considered indecent or obscene, but for the definition contained in Section 5 of the Act, which provides that any advertisement relating to certain diseases shall be deemed to be printed or written matter of an indecent nature within the meaning of Section 3 of the Act; showing conclusively that such an advertisement as that in the present case was not considered indecent until this Act of Parliament was passed.

Mr. Plowden: Very naturally it is the Act of Parliament makes the offence. Read on, and you will find the advertisement is to be considered indecent

if such advertisement is applied to or inscribed on any house building, wall, hoarding, gate, fence, pillar, post, board, tree, or other thing whatsoever so as to be visible to a person being in or passing along any street, public highway, or footpath.

Mr. Ricketts: You will see, sir, that omitted from the section are the words in Section 3 "any picture or printed or written matter" exhibited to view.

Mr. Plowden: It says if "so as to be visible to a person being in or passing along the street." Is not a shop-window a place visible to a person in the street?

Mr. Ricketts observed that the section was passed to prevent advertisements of an indecent character being posted in the streets. The Legislature intentionally omitted shop-windows [from Section 5].

Mr. Plowden: Do you mean that anything may be put in a shop-window?

Mr. Ricketts: Yes unless it is in itself obscene. I contend this is not indecent.

The Magistrate: Nevertheless you asked a lady to leave the court before the case was gone into.

Mr. Ricketts: That was because I had to ask questions about objectionable matters. Continuing, Mr. Ricketts remarked that the ruling of the Magistrates who had dismissed the previous summonses had never been questioned. The omission from Section 5 of the words he had quoted from Section 3 showed that the latter applied to advertisements that were in themselves indecent, and not to anything of the nature in question exhibited in a shop-window, and more particularly in a chemist's shop-window.

The Magistrate pointed out that the Act says "exhibits to public view in the window of any . . . shop" anything that is indecent.

Mr. Ricketts suggested that there was nothing in the label that was in itself indecent.



The Magistrate: What you can call it, if it is not indecent I don't know. People stop and look at shop-windows, and for that reason they are made attractive. Even chemists decorate their windows to attract people. Advertisements of this kind are at least suggestive of indecency. However, I will adjourn the case *sine die* on the defendant undertaking that no more are put in the window.

Mr. Ricketts: Of course he was misled by reading the reports of the other cases in the trade journals.

The Magistrate: It is for that reason I suggest the adjournment.

Mr. Ricketts: The defendant asks what he is to do in regard to enemas and other things of the kind that are exhibited in the window.

The Magistrate: I don't know anything about other things.

The Defendant: Similar advertisements are exhibited everywhere.

The Magistrate: I don't know anything about that. Just take what course you please.

Mr. Ricketts: He will undertake to keep them out of the window while he is there. He is only the manager.

The Magistrate: I will adjourn the summons for a month, to see if that is done.

Mr. Ricketts: Supposing it is? He has kept them since the sergeant called.

The Magistrate: I am very glad. I see the force of your argument about Section 3, but I am not at all sure that that puts away the general words of the section. I am of opinion that this is indecent matter.

Mr. Ricketts: That is a fresh ruling, and if that is so there will be no need for Section 5 at all.

The Magistrate: That is my view at present. I will adjourn the summons for a month, to see what he does. If he continues to exhibit the advertisement, I shall have the case brought before me again, and I shall then have to give my decision.

Mr. Ricketts said his client would undertake not to exhibit them again; and if at the end of the month he determined to ask for his Worship's ruling on the point, he hoped his Worship would give it.

The Magistrate replied that he would.

## Bankruptcies and Failures.

**Re WILFRID LEAN**, Evesham, Pharmaceutical Chemist.—The Trustee announces that on September 21 he will pay to the unsecured creditors a first and final dividend of 3s. 0½d. in the pound.

**Re VALENTINE LAST**, 78 Tithebarn Street late 80 Holt Road, Liverpool, Chemist.—On September 10 a sitting for the public examination of this debtor was held at Liverpool, and in the result an adjournment was ordered.

**Re F. H. BROMFIELD**, trading as a Chemist at Blaenavon.—The Official Receiver of the Merthyr Bankruptcy Court reports that he has completed the realisation of the estate, which, after meeting the costs and preferential claims, will yield a first and final dividend of 2½d. in the pound, payable on September 22.

**Re JOHN ERNEST EDINGTON**, 114 Hopwood Street, Liverpool, Chemist's Manager.—The statement of affairs filed shows liabilities amounting to 74l. 11s. 4d. and no available assets. The following are creditors:

	£	s.	d.
Leith, John, St. Helens ...	20	0	0
McDonald May, Liverpool ...	10	0	0
Wells, C., Leicester ...	14	0	0

At the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court on September 16, the public examination was ordered to be closed, the Official Receiver having stated that the accounts ordered at the previous hearing had been filed and that he was satisfied with them.

**Re EDWARD SAMUEL BAICHIN**, trading as Cosway & Rutter, 109 High Road, Kilburn, Pharmaceutical Chemist.

The public examination of this debtor was held on Tuesday, September 15, at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Giffard, the accounts showing total liabilities 630l. 8s. 8½d., of which 438l. 0s. 10½d. is unsecured, and assets valued at 35l. 15s. Questioned by Mr. E. Leadam Hough, senior

Official Receiver, the debtor stated that in 1895, having traded for six years at Gosport, and owing about 150l. to 200l., he attempted to make a private arrangement with his creditors. A composition of 7s. 6d. in the pound was accepted by creditors for 30l., and in April, 1897, he was made bankrupt in the Portsmouth Court, when a dividend of 8s. 0½d. was paid to creditors. He subsequently obtained an order of discharge from those proceedings. From March, 1893, to October, 1901, he traded as a chemist at 81 Stoke Road, Gosport, selling the business in the latter month for 720l. In the following December he purchased, for 1,027l., the business at 109 High Road, Kilburn, but had only paid 559l. on account of the purchase-money, and had since traded there in the name of Cosway & Rutter. The takings of that business were misrepresented to him. He complained to the vendor, who allowed him the cost of certain drainage-works as a concession; otherwise he would have launched an action for damages. To such misrepresentation, combined with bad trade and excess of expenses over profits, witness ascribed his appearance at the Court. The examination was concluded.

## Deed of Arrangement.

**Longthorne, William**, trading as the Manor Park Drug-stores, 390 High Street North, Manor Park, Essex. Trustee, Wm. A. Schultz, 50 Cannon Street, E.C., chartered accountant. Dated, September 11; filed, September 14. Secured creditors, 50l.; liabilities unsecured, 317l. 2s. 10½d.; estimated net assets, 145l. Composition of 10s. in the pound by four equal instalments at six, twelve, eighteen, and twenty-four months from registration hereof, secured by an assignment upon trust until default, &c. Among the creditors are:

	£	s.	d.
Dring, Miss M., London ...	160	0	0
Houghton, W., & Son (re Baughan & Co.), London ...	61	0	0
Lorimer & Co. (Limited), London ...	35	0	0
Potter & Clarke, London ...	10	0	0
Sutton, W., & Co., London ...	31	0	0

## Gazette.

### Partnerships Dissolved.

**Fentiman, T., and Pickup, A.**, under the style of Fentiman & Pickup, Middlesbrough, botanical brewers.

**Gathergood, B. W., M.D., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., and Forrest, J. L., M.B., C.M.**, under the style of Gathergood & Forrest, Terrington St. John and Terrington St. Clement, Norfolk, medical practitioners.

**Horne, E., and Moorhouse, J. W.**, under the style of Horne & Moorhouse, Barnsley, Yorkshire, chemists and druggists.

**Radway, C.** (the late), and **Munby, J. C., M.R.C.V.S.**, under the style of Radway & Munby, Lewes and Newick, Sussex, veterinary surgeons.

**Roberts, J., M.D., and Roberts, J. T., M.B.**, under the style of Roberts & Roberts, Chester, general medical practitioners.

**Skelton, W., and Green, W. H.**, under the style of Cruickshank & Skelton, Birmingham, lacquer and varnish makers.

**Wallis, M. E. A., and Burton, C. G.**, under the style of Wallis & Burton, Clapton and elsewhere, Middlesex, and Essex, physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, accoucheurs, and general medical practitioners.

**Wallis, M. E. A., Burton, C. G., and Ross, E. N. MacB.**, under the style of Wallis, Burton & Ross, Clapton and elsewhere, Middlesex, and Essex, physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, accoucheurs, and general medical practitioners.

### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

**Nealon, John A.**, Sheil Road, Liverpool, doctor of medicine.

#### ADJUDICATION.

**Morgan, William Griffith**, trading as Havard & Morgan, Nantyglo, Monmouthshire, mineral-water manufacturer.

**MOUNTAIN-SICKNESS.**—This distressing ailment, resembling sea-sickness in its effects, is relieved by the administration of a cup of hot tea. The infusion should be taken as hot as it can be borne.



## New Companies & Company News.

**MANCHESTER AND SHEFFIELD TAR-WORKS COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 5,000l., in 10l. shares. Objects: To take over the business of tar-distillers and manufacturing chemists carried on by Ellison & Mitchell (Limited) and G. W. Mitchell as the "Manchester and Sheffield Tar-works Company" at Washford Road, Attercliffe, near Sheffield, and at the Globe Chemical-works, Clayton, near Manchester. First directors: H. Ellison, H. Ellison, jun., G. W. Mitchell, and C. O. Peper. Registered office, Washford Road, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

**LIXO MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 2,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To acquire the sole rights and interests for the United Kingdom in secrets for the manufacture of an antiseptic and disinfectant detergent or liquid soap, to adopt an agreement with J. Bradburn, C. Bradburn, S. B. Simmons, and G. R. Day, and to develop and turn to account the said rights, &c. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 30l. Remuneration (except managing director) as fixed by the company. Registered office, Harrington Chambers, 26 North John Street, Liverpool.

**TROMMER COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 10,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To acquire the secret processes, trade marks, and other rights relating to the manufacture and sale by the Trommer Company, of Fremont, Ohio, U.S.A., of extracts of malt and other chemical, medicinal, pharmaceutical, and industrial preparations and articles, and to turn to account the same. The first subscribers are: F. R. W. Newbery, 27-3 Charterhouse Square, E.C., druggists' sundriesman; A. Homewood, 20 Half-Moon Crescent, Barnsbury, clerk; H. G. Mumford, 14 Townsend Road, South Tottenham, clerk; H. T. Knight, 111 Sandringham Buildings, Charing Cross Road, W.C., warehouseman; A. H. Beken, 31 Meyrick Road, Clapham, clerk; H. R. Harman, 10 Conderton Road, Loughborough Junction, S.E., clerk; and W. S. Daly, 23 Sturry Street, Poplar, E., clerk. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Remuneration, 25l. each per annum.

**THOMAS GARDNER & SONS (LIMITED).**—Capital 2,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with J. A. Gardner for the acquisition of the business of a chemical-manufacturer carried on by him at Douglas Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne, as "Thomas Gardner & Sons," and to carry on the business of manufacturers and exporters of and dealers in pure and commercial liquid ammonia, nitric, hydrochloric, and sulphuric acids, and other pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations, compounds, and articles, chemists, druggists, dyers, analysts, oil and colour men, builders and contractors, plumbers, gasfitters, sanitary and electric-lighting engineers, cabinet-makers, wood-turners and workers, dealers in building materials, &c. The first subscribers are: T. B. Landreth, 9 Exeter Street, Gateshead, clerk; T. W. Urwin, 25 Hillfield Street, Gateshead, cashier; J. A. Gardner, 44 Dean Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, chartered accountant; T. G. Gardner, 105 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne, chemical-works manager; A. Urwin, 124 Brighton Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne, clerk; J. A. Best, Minoco Wharf, Silvertown, Essex, oil-refiner; and Mrs. M. Best, Minoco Wharf, Silvertown, Essex. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. A. Gardner, J. D. Best, and T. G. Gardner. Qualification, 10l. Remuneration (except managing director) as fixed by the company.

## Birth.

**MARTIN.**—At Leicester, on September 15, the wife of H. A. Martin, chemist and druggist, of a daughter.

## Marriages.

**BOURDAS—MARTIN.**—At the Church of the Ascension, Balham Hill, S.W., on September 8, by the Rev. A. W. Hooper, M.A., Isaiah Bourdas, jun., chemist and druggist, eldest son of Isaiah Bourdas, pharmaceutical chemist, of Dunoon House, Clapham Common, and of 6 Pont Street and Belgrave Road, S.W., to Agnes, eldest daughter of the late James Martin, of The Grange, Bervie, Kincardineshire.

**BROWN—BROWN.**—At Burnhead United Free Church, on September 8, by the Rev. J. P. Murdoch, M.A., assisted by the Rev. J. Brown Firret, M.A., William Brown, chemist, London, to Lizzie, youngest daughter of the late John Brown merchant, Penpont, Dumfriesshire.

**JENKINS—McDOUGALL.**—On September 10, at St. Peter's Church, Limsfield, by the Rev. E. M. Blackie, assisted by the Rev. George Salt, Rector of Llanfrothen, John Jenkins, Vicar of Beddgelert, N. Wales to Florence, third daughter of Sir John McDougall, L.C.C.

**MANFULL—THORPE.**—On September 10, at Darnall Parish Church, by the Rev. G. G. Swann, Vicar, Claud, youngest son of the late H. J. Manfull, chemist, Arkwright Street, Nottingham, to Lillie, youngest daughter of the late Richard Thorpe, Nottingham.

**SYMONS—FORTUNE.**—At the Church of English Martyrs Streatham, S.W., on September 12, by the Rev. Father Phillips, of Brighton, Francis B. Symons, of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son's representative staff, to Susannah Fortune, of 2 Stanthorpe Road, Streatham.

## GOLDEN WEDDING.

**ROBERTSON—SCOTT.**—On September 13, 1853, at Perth, by the Rev. Mr. Falconer, of St. Paul's, Andrew Malloch Robertson, pharmaceutical chemist, Glasgow, to Bessie Scott, twin daughter of the late Wm. Scott, Esq., Demerara, West Indies.—Present address: Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Robertson, 314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

## Deaths.

**FARNWORTH.**—On September 5, after a lingering illness, the wife of Mr. Richard Farnworth, chemist, Avenue Parade, Accrington.

**FRY.**—At Taunton, on September 12, Mr. William Cattle Fry, chemist and druggist, who for many years carried on business in Fore Street, aged fifty-four. Mr. Fry was one of the best-known pharmacists in Somerset. He was in the prime of life, enterprising in business, and zealous in public work. He was an enthusiastic Conservative, being at one time greatly interested in the Constitutional Club. He was also a member of the Market Trust. He leaves a widow and family, with whom deep sympathy is felt in their sudden bereavement (see also page 487).

**GEORGE.**—At Hirwain, on September 12, from an apoplectic seizure, Mr. William Albert Watkin George, chemist and druggist, High Street, Hirwain, aged thirty-eight. Mr. George leaves a widow and three children.

**LLOYD.**—At Swansea, on September 10, Mr. John Walters Lloyd, chemist and druggist, of 53 Oxford Street, Swansea. Mr. Lloyd intended to retire from business at the end of the present month. Mr. Lloyd was one of the oldest and best-respected tradesmen in the town, and for many years had been in business in Oxford Street. He was also a life-long member of St. Mary's Parish Church, and one of its churchwardens. He was about sixty years of age, and was a member of a well-known Swansea family.

**PADWICK.**—The death has occurred with painful suddenness of Mr. J. Graham Padwick, brother of Mr. T. P. Padwick, chemist and druggist, of Station Road, Redhill. Mr. Padwick, who was only twenty-nine years of age, served in the late Boer War with the Royal Army Medical Corps, and was recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry at Tufel Kop. He was found dead in bed, heart-disease being the cause of death.

**PUCKERING.**—At York, on September 6, Mr. John Puckering, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-five.

**TAYLOR.**—At Brighton, on September 7, Mr. James Johnson Taylor, chemist and druggist, Manchester, aged fifty-eight.

**VINCENT.**—At Tregarrick Farm, near Truro, on September 6, Mr. William Vincent, chemist and druggist, aged thirty-seven. Mr. Vincent had been last season at the Pharmacie Internationale, Bordighera, and was on a visit to his native place. On September 6 he shot himself with a gun, and at the inquest it was stated that Mr. Vincent had been addicted to taking drugs.



## The Kaleidoscope.



Beautifying Bloomsbury.

### III.

Space is very valuable in the West of London, because we have a number of dukes to whom tribute is paid. Yet a commanding spot over the portal of No. 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., has hitherto been inadequately occupied and unadorned. Without considering what the poet has said on that point, the artist has after many essays in the clay evolved the above design for a new No. 17 doorway. The central figure does not represent a member of Cashell Byron's profession, but is the effigy of one who throughout life has aimed at high places and reached them. Hence the appropriateness of the design. The figure would be supported on the dorsal side by appropriate emblems of chemistry and pharmacy. The diagrammatic outline on the ventral side is not a motor-car, but a well-known friction adjunct indigenous to Bond Street.

## Scientific Progress.

**Corynocarpus Laevigata.**—This plant, which is used by the Maoris, has been examined, and in the fruit a glucoside, which has been called karakin, has been found. It is a crystalline body, of the formula  $C_{15}H_{21}O_{15}N_5$ , and melts at  $122^\circ$ . A second glucoside, corynocarpin, melting at  $140^\circ$ , has also been extracted (*Pharm. Central*, 1903, 527).

**Opium Bases.**—Hesse contributes a paper on the bases of opium to the current issue of *Journal für Prakt. Chemie* (1903, 190). Numerous analyses of the alkaloid papaverine and its compounds prove clearly that the correct formula for this base is  $C_{20}H_{21}NO_4$ , and not  $C_{21}H_{21}NO_4$ , as has been held recently. The numerous analyses of the compounds of pseudopapaverine, however, appear to strongly support the old formula,  $C_{21}H_{21}NO_4$ , for this base.

**Enzyme Fermentation.**—Albert, Buchner, and Rapp have worked out a process for the extraction of the essential ferment present in yeast which is capable of determining the alcoholic fermentation. The process consists in treating the yeast with acetone, then with ether. It is best to do this under such pressure that the yeast holds not more than 72 per cent. of water. The product may be dried at  $45^\circ C$ , and then has the power of inducing alcoholic fermentation.—(*Journal de Pharmacie*, 1903, 221.)

**Saponarin.**—According to Barger, saponarin is a new glucoside obtained from the leaves of the soapwort (*Berichte*, 35,

1296). The dried leaves are extracted with boiling water, and the filtered liquid is acidified with acetic acid. After several days a precipitate is formed, which is dissolved in soda and reprecipitated with acetic acid. The compound forms masses of fine needles which darken on heating and decompose at  $156^\circ$ . It is coloured blue by iodine, but on hydrolysis yields glucose and a compound not coloured by iodine. On fusion with alkalis it yields oxybenzoic acid and probably hydroquinone. The glucoside closely resembles the scutellarin isolated by Molsch and Goldschmidt.

**Delphocurarine.**—Under this name Merck has recently introduced into therapeutic practice the product of a species of delphinium. Heyl (*Chem. Central*, 1903, 1187) has examined this base, and finds that it has very similar properties to ordinary curare. It is probably not a definite compound, occurring as an amorphous powder, but from it a crystalline body has been separated, which has the empirical formula  $C_{25}H_{35}NO_7$ , and melts at  $185^\circ$ . It forms well-defined platinum and gold salts, and appears to have general alkaloidal properties.

**A New Terpene Hydrocarbon.**—Fenchyl dichloride has been prepared in a pure state and found to melt at  $50^\circ$ . If it be treated with alcoholic potash and allowed to stand at water-bath temperature for five hours, a new hydrocarbon of the formula  $C_{10}H_{16}$  is obtained, which has the following characters: Sp. gr. at  $15^\circ = 0.8524$ ; refractive index at  $20^\circ = 1.47713$ . It gives colour-reactions very closely resembling those so characteristic of the terpenes sylvestrene and carvestrene. Its constitution is being examined by Kondakow and Schindelmeyer.—(*Jour. für Prakt. Chem.*, 1903, 105.)

**Suprarenin.**—In an interesting paper on this active principle of the suprarenal glands, Furth (*Monatshefte*, 1903, 261) gives a series of analyses which tend to confirm the formula  $C_8H_{13}NO_3$  for suprarenin. It can be prepared in a nearly pure condition by treating the iron combination of suprarenin with hydrogen sulphide, and then adding ammonia to the filtrate from the precipitated iron sulphide. Suprarenin separates in a crystalline condition if the liquid is sufficiently concentrated. A number of indefinite derivatives or decomposition products of the body are described, but none of them are of much use in throwing light on the constitution of this compound. A provisional formula is suggested, but is not supported by any convincing evidence.

## Business Changes.

MR. T. W. CLEAVE, chemist and druggist, has acquired premises at 107 Windmill Road, Brentford.

DODD'S DRUG STORES, in consequence of fire, have been transferred from 280 to 146 Edgware Road, W.

MR. CHARLES J. KAY, formerly of Aberdeen, has joined the representative staff of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., 111 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

THE business of the late Mr. John Green, pharmaceutical chemist, at 28 High Street, Deal, is being handed over to Messrs. Timothy White Company.

MR. MURRAY T. FOSTER, pharmaceutical chemist, has succeeded to the business of the late Mr. J. Foster, chemist and druggist, at Collumpton, Devon.

MR. W. J. DALBY, chemist and druggist, 6 Canfield Gardens, has opened additional premises at 1 Frognal Parade, Finchley Road, South Hampstead, N.W.

MR. ERNEST QUANT, chemist and druggist [Horton & Co. (Limited), Torquay], has fitted up a bacteriological laboratory in connection with his business for the use of doctors and scientists in clinical diagnosis or the examination of water and milk supplies.

MR. GEORGE DUNN, chemist and druggist, has commenced business in Church Stretton. The whole of the interior shop-fittings and window-enclosures have been supplied by Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), Liverpool and London.

MR. J. W. SHEPHERD, pharmaceutical chemist, Market Place, Settle, Yorks, has taken into partnership Mr. William Walker, chemist and druggist, and Mr. William Towler Walker, chemist and druggist, his son. In future the business will be carried on under the style of Shepherd & Walker. Mr. William Walker has been connected with the business for nearly thirty-eight years, and Mr. William Towler Walker completed his apprenticeship with Mr. Shepherd about three years ago.



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### Sir Norman Lockyer

is undoubtedly right in insisting that brain-power is the motive force of modern commerce, but his inference that national brain-power is in proportion to the number of universities, or, in his own words, that their numbers and the amounts of their endowment "are the conditions which regulate the production of brain-power in the United States, Germany, and Great Britain respectively," is, to say the least, a debatable proposition. Universities do not produce brain-power, though it would be foolish to deny that they develop and train it. Nor, as a matter of fact, have the creators or leaders of industries in any of these countries named been university created men. "If I have one distinction," said Andrew Carnegie as President of the Iron and Steel Institute the week before Sir Norman Lockyer spoke, "it is that my works were the first to squander 300% a year on a German chemist." But it was not the German chemist, nor an army of them, who provided the brain-power which created and conducted the great Carnegie works.

### "More Professors and Better Pay,"

says Sir Norman Lockyer, is "another crying need" of Great Britain. That is always a popular text with a British Association audience. But the nation will want a lot of facts beyond those Sir Norman Lockyer quotes before it parts with twenty-four millions for the benefit of professors. There is a general impression—it may be a wrong one—that there are more scientific graduates about now than there is a demand for, and if there were any shortage we may be quite sure that German doctors would very promptly fill the vacuum. This, Sir Norman would no doubt answer, only shows that the masters do not know what is good for them. To a great extent that theory may be correct. The British capitalist had waxed fat and lazy; his sons became sportsmen rather than captains of industry, and it was then that the patient Teuton got his chance. It was not the 400 doctors of science who took our aniline-trade from us; it was the German employer's greater vigour and enterprise at the critical moment.

### A Pinch of Adversity

will stir his British rival much more effectively than 21,000,000% of national money. The latter has got his coat off now, and so far there is not so much the matter. An able writer in the *Contemporary Review* showed lately that the export trade of the United Kingdom had advanced in the last quarter of the nineteenth century from 6% to 6% 3s. 4d. per head of population, while that of Germany had increased from 3% 3s. per head to 3% 16s. 7d., and that of the United States from 2% 16s. 3d. to 3% 1s. 7d. Pooling the whole external trade of the United Kingdom, the United States, France, and Germany, it appears that in the first five years of the same period the United Kingdom did 33.6 per cent. of it, France 23.9 per cent., Germany 21.4 per cent., and the United States 15.1 per cent. In the last quinquennium these figures had changed to 37.7 per cent., 21.1 per cent., 23.2 per cent., and 19 per cent. These statistics, if not exactly encouraging to us, are by no means indicative of ruin, nor, on the principle that the child grows faster than the man, are they surprising. They certainly do not justify the resort to wild expenditure in architecture and professors to which the President of the British Association desires to commit us.

### Riga Balsam,

it appears, is a fairly well-known medicine on the east coast of Scotland, chiefly, perhaps, in the ports which communicate with the Baltic and Scandinavia. In order to dispel the idea which I recently quoted from Cooley that the Riga balsam sold in Great Britain is only "the bottoms of oil of juniper," Mr. James Jack, of Arbroath, has very kindly sent me two samples of the article, one black and the other water-white, as sold in that town. Mr. Jack says the sailors and seafaring people of that locality swear by it for all troubles, and most of them keep a stone bottle of it in their houses. They use it for external application, and Mr. Jack finds that it is a valuable antiseptic. They also take it as a warming stomachic. In this character Mr. Jack commended it to me. A small Riga and soda, he assured me, is not a bad tipple. The balsam encourages the seductive invitation by an odour very like that of Chartreuse (of which I have heard a distillation of young pine-buds is the basis), but disillusionment soon follows indulgence. Riga is a liqueur rather of the Seigel order than of that of the good Carthusians.

### The Exemption

in the Medicine-stamp Acts in favour of the drugs named in Sir Harbottle Grimston's "Books of Rates" has never been utilised so far as I know, and the suggestion made in an editorial article last week that the substances therein named, whether sold singly or in combination, are not subject to the provisions of the Act, strikes me as an ingenious and sound suggestion. There can be no doubt, of course, about this exemption in regard to any one of those drugs sold alone, or about any two or any ten; and it looks as if it would be a perfect defence to a prosecution if it could be said that the ingredients of the accused pills or powders were all named in the "Books of Rates." Unfortunately the list does not lend itself much to modern combinations, and any addition even of an excipient or menstruum not therein included would nullify the claim of the compound to exemption. Pills made of aloes, colocynth, scammony, and rhubarb, and combined with treacle would be exempt. But a trace of calomel would restore their liability, although blue-pill might be introduced as mercury is in the list. The only possible liquid by which to make solutions or infusions is "orange-flower water"; no drop of spirit could be employed.

### The Books of Rates

signed by Sir Harbottle Grimston form a document of considerable historic interest. It is part of the so-called "Grand Statute" which on the restoration of Charles II. provided for the revenue of the country. Goods imported, including the list of drugs quoted on pages 521-2 of *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, 1903, were scheduled, and to each article the market-price of the time was affixed. Five per cent. of this fixed price was to be the Customs duty. The merest glance through the list will show how different was the drug-trade of 1660 to that of our time. Scarcely a tenth part of the substances named are to be found in a modern drug-list. Many of them are gone out of memory altogether. What were adyanthun, amcas-seeds, aspalathus, balastium, bunkins or holiworsles or pistolachia, gum tacchamahaccæ, panther, and torcisci de vipera, to take only a few at random? Then the prices are full of interest. Here are a few: Allum Romish or Roch the hundred conteyning one hundred and twelve pound, £ i; camphire refined the pound, v s; camphire unrefined the pound, i j s v i d; cancri oculus the pound v s; chrystall in broken peeces for physycall uses, the pound, i i j s i v d; opian the pound x s; sponges the pound i i j s i v d.



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## Free Trade and Protection.

THE Prime Minister of this country has declared himself to be in favour of protection of British trade by means of an import-tariff on the products of countries outside the British Empire. This is, in brief, the outcome of the philosophical essay which Mr. Balfour circulated amongst his ministerial colleagues last month, and which was on Wednesday published as a shilling pamphlet by Messrs. Longmans & Co. It comes out simultaneously with the Blue-book of "memoranda, statistical tables, and charts prepared in the Board of Trade with reference to various matters bearing on British and foreign trade and industrial conditions." The Cabinet concluded on Tuesday a two days' meeting which was chiefly devoted to the fiscal question, and whatever decision may have been arrived at, there can be no question that the Prime Minister's pamphlet by itself will suffice to bring the question of Free Trade v. Protection definitely before the country at the next parliamentary election. This is likely to be soon, and it is to be hoped that the contents of the Blue-book will be well digested before then. This Blue-book is

A Book  
to Buy.

a magnificent production of 500 quarto pages (costing 3s. 6d. at the King's publishers), in which the export and import trade of the

United Kingdom, France, Germany, and the United States are analysed, special departments of British trade being separately treated, such as coal and machinery, foodstuffs and raw materials, tinplate, textiles, iron and steel, and shipping. Industrial conditions of the chief countries are examined, especially in relation to money-wages per family of the working people, the cost of living, and food-consumption. Scores of details which are influenced by import-tariffs and monopolies are calmly examined—in short, although Sir A. E. Bateman, the Comptroller-General of the Board of Trade, who is responsible for the book, disclaims completeness for it, it is so voluminous that it will be taken as sufficient whether it deserves to settle the question or not.

Trade of  
Nations  
Compared.

There is something of direct interest to the drug-trade in the book. From the first table we extract the following figures, in millions of pounds sterling, representing the imports and exports of the four great countries. No cognisance is taken of quantities



and as values have been lowered all round the comparison of quantities would be even more striking:

Country		Imports		Exports	
		Total	Manufactures	Total	Manufactures
U.K.	1854	152	25.9	97	88.7
	1880	411	83.2	223	198.2
	1890	421	98.2	263	228.4
	1901	522	142.7	271	221
Germany	1880	141	39.1	144.8	83.5
	1890	208.1	49	166.4	107.3
	1901	271.1	53.2	221.6	144.6
	1854	51.7	—	56.5	—
France	1880	201.3	24	138.7	73.6
	1890	177.5	26	150.1	80
	1901	174.8	30.9	160.5	90
	1854	57.5	—	44.8	5.8
U.S.A.	1880	137.7	55.9	171.7	21.4
	1890	161.8	72.2	176.1	31.5
	1901	165.8	67.3	304.3	85.6

Where there are blanks in the foregoing figures are not available. The tables in the originals contain instructive remarks. Thus, in that of the United Kingdom "Tariff put on a free-trade basis" appears opposite 1861, when our total imports were 217 million pounds, 32.9 being of manufactured products, and 112.7 out of the 125 million pounds of exports were manufactures. Compare these with the decennial figures above. German statistics are not available prior to 1880. The Empire was constituted in 1871, and the tariff was put on the protection level in 1879, further increases being imposed in 1885. The table cannot settle

whether the large increase in exportation of manufactured goods is due to the constitution or the tariff. France does not give us points.

She has tariffs too, but they do not influence the statistics much. The United States table is more assertive. There we see up to 1890-91, when the McKinley tariff was imposed, a long period of lower protection accompanied by steady growth in imports of manufactured goods, the highest point being reached in 1891 with 76,700,000% of manufactured imports. The exports of manufactured goods in that year were valued at 35,200,000%, this being the record up to then. There were drops in the two years following; then in 1894 the Wilson tariff reduced the duties without appreciable effect, except that in 1896 the manufactures exported were valued at 47,600,000%. There was a heavy increase in duties in 1897, when 57,800,000% of manufactures were exported, and in 1900 the highest point was reached—90,400,000% of manufactured exports. The McKinley tariff of 1891 put imports of manufactures on the down grade, but there have been rebounds. At all events, if figures had been wanted to prove that a heavy protective tariff fosters internal industries, they are in the United States table. The population figures have a bearing, and are given on charts. These are shown graphically below, the nominators being the population in millions, and the denominators the exports of manufactured goods in millions of pounds sterling at the respective years:

Population Figures

U.K.		Germany		France		U.S.A.	
1871	1901	1871	1901	1856	1901	1860	1900
29	42½	41	56½	36	40	31½	75½
123	221	*	144.6	†	90	8.4	90.4

Divide the denominator by the nominator and one gets the value in millions of pounds per million of population.

\* 83½ millions in 1880.

† 72 millions in 1876.

The gist of the matter so far as our exporters are concerned is the effect of protection in shutting them out of markets, and the figures in regard to that are supplied. In 1850, 57 per cent. (38,085,000%) of our export trade in manufactured goods was with protected countries and colonies, and 43 per cent. (28,715,000%) with others. In 1902, 38 per cent. (87,062,000%) of this trade was with the protected places, and 62 per cent. (140,538,000%) with the others. It is also shown that the proportion of manufactured to total exports has gradually fallen from 94 per cent. in 1850 to 80 per cent. in 1900, and it is now 82 per cent. The actual figures are 71,368,000% of exports in 1850, and 282,604,000% in 1900, 66,800,000% and 225,200,000% being of manufactured goods. So far the figures have

Where our Trade is. not shown how the tariffs of the three great nations have affected the direct trade between

the United Kingdom and them in British manufactured articles. The book gives in Section III. details for the past twelve years. Here we find that 58 per cent. of our export trade is with foreign countries, 13 per cent. with India, 23 with our self-governing Colonies, and 6 per cent. with other British possessions. We were doing about 80 millions a year with India and our Colonies in 1890, and nearly 96 in 1902, with falls and rises between. With foreign countries we did 149.6 millions in 1890, and 131.6 in 1902. The lowest figure between (117.9) was in 1894, and the highest (142.2) in 1900. Ten millions of the decrease in 1902 was due to the United States, which bought steadily less of our manufactures from 1890 (29 millions) until 1898 (12½ millions), and since then the purchases have increased to 19½ millions. France and Italy each account for two millions of the decrease, and Germany, while importing half a million more direct, got 2½ millions less by way of Holland. Such figures as these are interesting, but they do not prove much, and they are dangerous in the hands of persons who approach this subject with the notion that the world's trade and British trade are synonymous terms. It is essential to keep in mind that the positions of the United Kingdom and France are akin, while these are utterly diverse from the positions of Germany and the United States, countries which have come into the world's market with manufactured goods on a competing scale within the past twenty years. During that period France's exports of manufactures have increased by 13 millions and ours by 38 millions. Germany sold 50.5 millions more in 1901 than in 1802, and the United States 57.5 millions more. In the increasing sense we are out of it, since to quadruple our export-business as the United States has done we should have had to sell 968 million pounds' worth of manufactured goods—an impossible thing. During the twenty years our own imports of manufactured articles increased from 84 millions to 142 millions, and as we gained in outside markets we have to find where Germany and the United States got business which we failed to secure, and upon this the Blue-book is silent. It is material to the question at issue.

\* \* \* \*

Our Own Trade. We now select from the tables some figures in regard to exports and imports of articles allied to the drug-trade. These are given in

the book for the years 1890-1902, the Board of Trade returns being followed. Figures are given (1) for all destinations, (2) for foreign countries, (3) for British possessions, and (4) for more important countries embodied in these. There are corresponding import figures for specified countries. The gist of these can best be shown in a series of short paragraphs:



**Chemical Products and Preparations.**—In 1890 we exported to the value of 5,863,000*l.*, and in 1902 5,446,000*l.* Falls and rises not exceeding 10 per cent. between. During the period foreign countries have been steadily buying less—now 3,986,000*l.*, as compared with 5,198,000*l.* in 1890. British possessions have more than doubled their purchases. The United States bought 2,031,931*l.* in 1890, and 792,466*l.* in 1902—purely as the result of high tariff. Germany, France, and Russia also bought less.

**Glass-manufactures.**—Exports were 1,065,000*l.* in 1890, and 1,098,000*l.* in 1902, but there were eight years well below a million. In this department we have lost business in Germany and the United States, and gained it in our Colonies.

**Medicines, Drugs, and Medicinal Preparations** have been steadily increasing from 1,060,000*l.* in 1890 to 1,369,000*l.* in 1902. The gain has been in British possessions, but Germany buys now 76,815*l.* worth, against 30,533*l.* in 1890, Belgium has more, France a little less (3,000*l.* worth), Italy a little more, and the United States half as much (48,169*l.*, against 94,924*l.*). Details of British possessions come out as follows:—

	1890	1902
	£	£
British India ...	163,000	238,000
Self-governing colonies ...	385,000	512,000
Other colonies ...	107,000	140,000

**Perfumery.**—A variable trade, valued at 102,000*l.* in 1890 and 147,000*l.* in 1902. During the twelve years trade with all British possessions has steadily increased from 48,000*l.* to 100,000*l.* India buys 30,000*l.* worth (double of 1890), self-governing colonies 52,000*l.* (19,000*l.* in 1890), and other colonies have fluctuated between 14,000*l.* and 18,000*l.* Besides, there is a big business in perfumed spirits (in bond), but it has decreased from 108,000*l.* in 1890 to 77,000*l.* in 1902, the fall being equally divided between foreign countries and British possessions.

**Soap** has steadily increased from 534,000*l.* in 1890 to 1,126,000*l.* in 1902. Only 182,000*l.* of this is due to larger purchases by foreign countries, purchases by our compatriots over the seas having risen from 325,000*l.* to 729,000*l.* Belgium and Holland are larger purchasers (for Germany chiefly), and the United States has figured about 50,000*l.* a year, but in 1895 bought 90,941*l.* worth.

**Oils** are a large export—viz., 1,796,000*l.* in 1890 and 2,355,000*l.* in 1902. The item fluctuates, and was only 1,201,000*l.* in 1893. The increase is equally divided between foreign countries and British possessions.

\* \* \* \*

So far there can be no doubt of the fact that the drug-trade is following the flag, but brains are unquestionably a factor here. We now come to what we buy from our great competitors.

**Germany.**—In this paragraph we group what is imported from Belgium and Holland, which is chiefly derived from Germany. Chemicals have steadily increased from 727,180*l.* in 1890 to 924,225*l.* in 1902, this apart from chemical dye-stuffs which were in 1890 584,451*l.* and 1,093,823*l.* in 1902, the bulk coming *via* Holland. Of drugs we got a quarter of a million from the three countries in 1890, and 28,000*l.* more in 1902; Holland accounts for a third of the amount, and that country sends us 30,000*l.* worth of Peruvian bark now as compared with 11,779*l.* in 1890. We bought 223,470*l.* worth of glass-bottles from Germany alone in 1894 and 307,115*l.* in 1902. Medicines do not figure, but of methyl alcohol we bought 15,944*l.* in 1893 and 13,113*l.* in 1902, with lower and higher values between. Our imports of German oils have increased from 283,000*l.* to 503,000*l.*, besides 478,000*l.* from Belgium and Holland (this also showing about double). From the three countries together we bought 9,094*l.* in 1902, as compared with 19,831*l.* in 1890, but in some years between we bought three times as much.

**France.**—We have been a consistent customer of this country for chemicals, buying 292,593*l.* in 1890 and 374,378*l.* in 1902; drugs have varied between 90,350*l.* and 88,853*l.* (but 103,603*l.* in 1899); glass bottles are a rising item, having grown from 91,341*l.* in 1894 to 226,394*l.* in 1902; oils have decreased from 456,000*l.* to 303,000*l.*; and perfumery was 33,843*l.* in 1902, or 1,000*l.* less than in 1890, the best year being 1893, when we bought 43,143*l.* worth.

**Russia** sends us about 7,000*l.* worth of drugs yearly. There have been big spurts occasionally—e.g., 20,723*l.* in 1891 and 14,142*l.* in 1900. We bought 24,303*l.* worth of oils in 1902, this also being a variable item, and quicksilver occasionally figures.

**Italy.**—We buy between 250,000*l.* and 300,000*l.* worth of chemicals a year from this country. Brimstone forms about half the total. Drugs are an unimportant figure, quicksilver has fallen

from 106,627*l.* in 1890 to 28,613*l.* in 1902, and oils (chiefly olive) from 397,534*l.* to 268,232*l.*

**United States.**—We are this country's best customer, our purchases amounting to 127,000,000*l.* a year (1902), and of this all but 21,000,000*l.* is, practically, food. The fact was Mr. Chamberlain's starting-point, for Canada and our Colonies ought to supply us with more foodstuffs. It is now recognised that they will, without the help of a tariff, because as the years go on the United States will need more and more of the food she grows for her own children. The manufactured articles allied to the drug-trade which she sends to us have been steadily increasing during the past twelve years, except perfumery, which was 22,873*l.* in 1890 and 3,974*l.* in 1902. The value was 34,395*l.* in 1892. Here a high protective tariff seems to make American manufacturers concentrate their attention on their own market, where the profits are higher, and as they have to depend upon foreign countries for their more important materials, the value of which is not enhanced in the process of manufacture, they cannot afford to undersell English and French makers on British markets. In chemicals their exports to us increased from 45,026*l.* in 1890 to 174,403*l.* in 1902, drugs from 128,194*l.* to 241,275*l.*, and oils from 1,016,000*l.* to 1,323,000*l.*

It is only the great importance of this subject which warrants our proceeding at this length with it, and our readers will bear in mind that these are notes on almost as many pages of the Blue-book as there are lines here. To chemists and druggists a preferential tariff means, in the first instance, how will it affect our supplies, and how will it benefit the home-industries connected with our trade? The Blue-book statistics are too general for guidance in this direction, and we conclude that the case cannot be made out without inquiry in the chemical and drug trades themselves. In what markets have we lost through high tariffs, and how far have the manufacturers of these protected countries ousted our manufacturers at home and in foreign markets owing to the security and high prices they have at home? We shall be glad to have expression of opinion on that question. Doubtless everyone will recall the well-known facts that in the chemical-trade Germany is accountable for much, and in alkali the tariff of the United States has stopped our business in that direction. High tariff alone accounts for the latter; but it is acknowledged that something more accounts for Germany's success in chemicals, and it has to be determined whether British backwardness, fiscal restrictions, and expensive labour have been as detrimental as Government encouragement, great technical enterprise, and cheap labour have assisted the Germans.

\* \* \* \*

Coming back to the general problem, we may commend perusal of Mr. Balfour's pamphlet to partisans on both sides.

It is a stimulating essay, furnishing the free trader with ample statement for retort, and giving the protectionist that logical argument which is much ignored in discussing a problem that is apt to be solved by personal interest. There is no pseudo-imperialism in Mr. Balfour's statement; he goes straight for retaliatory protection, and is convinced by logic rather than statistics. He does not prove that the output of our manufactures will increase by protection, but that the business of the country will, if we persist in our present policy, come to wreck and ruin in the course of years. The weightiest argument advanced is that our unparalleled imports are not a sign of prosperity, but merely repayment of money that we have lent to the world. This is imperfectly worked out in the pamphlet. It is capable of development, and a very material factor in the consideration. Perhaps Mr. Balfour may elaborate it in "the statement which it will be his duty to make in a few days before a public audience." In any case, he has committed his party to the policy of a tariff war, and the country to consideration of a question of paramount importance to our manufactures, and more serious to British trade and finance.



## The Registrar-General's Roll.

IN the middle of the year 1901 there were 15,773,061 males and 16,843,201 females in England and Wales. This we learn from the report of the Registrar-General for 1901, which also tells us that 253,400 marriages took place during the year—a decrease of about 0.7 per 1,000 of the estimated population on the rate of the four years immediately preceding. This decrease is put down to the South African War. There were fewer remarriages than usual during the year, and the birth-rate has been decreasing annually since 1895. The deaths registered during 1901 numbered 551,535, and in only one year since civil registration began had the proportion of deaths to population fallen lower. Of that number 17,312 were due to accident or negligence, and 3,121 to suicide. The figures in the latter case slightly exceed the average. "Poisons and poisonous vapours" caused the death of 305 males and 210 females either by accident or negligence, and the suicide of 266 males and 226 females is also attributed to poisons. The following table gives the details:

	Negligence and Accidents		Suicides	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Acetic acid ... ..	—	—	—	1
Acetate of lead ... ..	—	—	1	—
Aconite ... ..	3	2	1	1
"Alcoholic spirits" ... ..	3	—	—	—
Ammonia ... ..	4	3	3	8
Anæsthetics:				
Chloroform ... ..	59	32	—	—
Chloroform and ether ... ..	1	—	—	—
Ether ... ..	3	3	—	—
Kind not stated ... ..	23	9	—	—
A.C.E. mixture ... ..	2	—	—	—
Ether and cocaine ... ..	1	—	—	—
Arsenic ... ..	17	29	—	2
Arsenical beer ... ..	15	15	—	—
Atropine ... ..	2	2	—	—
Belladonna ... ..	1	1	2	2
Belladonna and opium lini-				
ment ... ..	1	—	—	—
Bichloride of mercury ... ..	1	—	—	3
Bichromate of potash ... ..	2	—	—	—
Brandy ... ..	—	3	—	—
Bromidia ... ..	1	—	—	—
Camphor ... ..	1	1	—	—
Camphorated oil ... ..	1	1	—	—
Carbolic acid ... ..	17	16	60	82
Carbon monoxide ... ..	4	—	1	—
Carbonic-acid gas ... ..	8	—	—	—
Caustic potash ... ..	1	—	—	—
Caustic soda ... ..	1	2	—	—
Chloral ... ..	4	4	1	—
Chloride of antimony ... ..	—	—	—	1
Chlorodyne ... ..	4	1	1	1
Chloroform (not for operation)				
... ..	2	1	1	1
Coal gas ... ..	10	14	6	1
Coal-naphtha ... ..	—	1	—	—
Cocaine ... ..	—	1	1	2
Corrosive acid ... ..	—	—	2	—
Creolin ... ..	—	—	1	—
Creosote ... ..	1	—	—	—
Cyanide of potassium ... ..	—	—	13	2
Daffodils ... ..	—	1	—	—
"Ferro bichloride" ... ..	—	1	—	—
Foul air in well ... ..	6	—	—	—
Fumes, benzol ... ..	1	—	—	—
Fumes, brick-damp ... ..	3	—	—	—
Fumes, charcoal ... ..	1	1	1	—
Fumes, gas ... ..	1	—	—	—
Fumes, kiln ... ..	3	—	—	—
Fumes, petroleum ... ..	1	—	—	—
Fungus ... ..	—	3	—	—
Hydrochloric acid ... ..	10	2	25	25
Lead ... ..	1	—	—	—
Liniment ... ..	—	—	—	1

	Negligence and Accidents		Suicides	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Marking-ink ... ..	—	1	—	—
Matches ... ..	—	1	—	—
Methylated spirit ... ..	—	1	—	—
Narcotic (kind not stated) ...	2	1	—	—
Nicotine ... ..	—	—	1	—
Nightshade ... ..	—	1	—	—
Nitric acid ... ..	1	1	3	2
Nitrate of mercury ... ..	—	—	1	—
Oil of tar ... ..	—	1	—	—
Opium, laudanum, morphia ...	39	22	45	12
Opium and belladonna ... ..	—	—	—	1
Ointment ... ..	—	1	—	—
"Overdose of medicine" ... ..	1	1	—	—
Oxalate of potash ... ..	—	—	—	2
Oxalic acid ... ..	4	3	34	38
Paraffin ... ..	2	—	—	—
Perchloride of mercury ... ..	1	—	5	1
Phosphorus ... ..	2	7	—	4
Prussic acid, oil of almonds ...	4	—	22	2
Sewer gas ... ..	2	—	—	—
Smoke ... ..	1	3	—	—
Soothing-syrup ... ..	1	2	—	—
Strychnia, nux vomica ... ..	2	8	6	7
Sulphonal ... ..	—	1	—	—
Sulphuretted hydrogen ... ..	1	—	—	—
Sulphuric acid ... ..	3	1	—	2
Turpentine ... ..	—	2	—	—
Turpentine-liniment ... ..	—	—	—	1
Vermifuge ... ..	—	—	3	3
Kind not stated ... ..	18	6	25	19

It is satisfactory to note that the total number of deaths (1,007) shows a decrease of about 200 on the previous year. The unthinking reader will also be surprised to discover the small proportion of fatalities resulting from poisons for the handling of which chemists alone are responsible. It will be observed that 133 deaths occurred under anæsthetics (an increase of seventeen on the preceding year), about 270 persons were killed (or killed themselves) with fumes, gases, &c., and 110 were poisoned by mineral acids and corrosive alkalis that a beneficent Government refuses to add to the Poisons Schedule, on the pretext that it might be to the restraint of trade. Carbolic acid as a popular suicide medium dies hard; the figures for suicide are about the same as those of 1900, but the accident were fewer in 1901. The idiosyncrasies of the sexes in their preference for poisons is peculiar. Women who kill themselves have apparently no thought of dying easily. They invariably choose, as the figures show, a corrosive (ammonia, carbolic acid, hydrochloric acid, oxalic acid, &c.), while men prefer to die quickly (prussic acid) or painlessly (opium, &c.).

### Medicine-stamp Matters.

The discussion which confectioners have had about the sale of cough-lozenges (see page 517) is interesting as showing how those outside pharmacy are struck by the new ruling which is to come into force on December 31. We note that Mr. Guest, of Manchester, kept some of the speakers right on points as to which they were imperfectly informed. One of the most surprising statements made at the meeting was by the Secretary of the Union, who said that the Board of Inland Revenue had informed him that if a lozenge merely contains a flavouring-agent, and no medicament, it can be sold as "cough-lozenge." The terms of the 1815 Act do not refer at all to the composition of the lozenge sold, but specifically says that if "the person . . . sell [lozenges] as medicines, or as beneficial for the prevention, cure, or relief," &c., the lozenges must be stamped, and the vendors must take out a licence. We can scarcely credit the state-



ment attributed to the Board. Further sidelights on the matter are becoming visible. Besides the deputation on behalf of herbalists, which was what we referred to last week, there is now being organised a scheme on behalf of wholesale druggists. This is not done through the Drug Club, although some members of that body will probably be selected to join the deputation which it is proposed to send to Somerset House. We understand that there is great trouble throughout the retail trade as to what labels will be liable and what will not on and after December 31, and how old ones may continue to be used. We are advising subscribers on this matter every day, and return labels marked if a stamped and addressed envelope is sent with them. It is obviously unfair for non-subscribers to the *C. & D.* to benefit by this arrangement, especially as the 10s. subscription is a trifle compared to what they would have to pay a lawyer for advice that not a dozen solicitors in the country could give. As to formulas for known, admitted, and approved remedies to be included in our *DIARY*, we cannot guarantee insertion of any received after this date.

### Limited Companies' Responsibilities.

The recent series of cases under the Medicine-stamp Acts has been the means of arousing interest in many quarters. The daily papers comment on the decisions more or less accurately, and even the law journals are aroused. The *Law Times* draws attention to a very interesting point taken in a recent prosecution of a limited company for selling unstamped medicines. The position of limited companies has been discussed in several cases during the past few years under the Pharmacy, Sale of Food and Drugs, and Dentists Acts. After referring to the House of Lords decision in the *Wheeldon* case, the legal journal goes on to say:

Practically the same argument was raised in the case now referred to, where the defendant company pleaded that they were entitled to a certain exemption in the Medicine-stamp Act in favour of chemists and druggists [see *C. & D.*, July 4, page 9]. But the argument supplied by the cases under the Pharmacy Act told against them in this way. The exemption applied only to chemists who had served a regular apprenticeship, and, the defendants in this case being a limited company, it was impossible for them to have served an apprenticeship, and therefore it was said they could not claim the benefit of the exemption, although their managing director and manager were properly qualified chemists. It was argued that the term "properly qualified chemist" implied apprenticeship, but the Magistrate decided against this view. There have been cases under the Dentists Act where it was held that limited companies, being incapable of fulfilling the conditions of registration prescribed by that Act, could not be held liable for not being registered—a view in harmony with the House of Lords decision under the Pharmacy Act. On the other hand, it was quite recently held that under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act a limited company might be prosecuted for selling adulterated food. The result of all these cases is that the law with regard to the criminal responsibility of limited companies is in a somewhat anomalous condition.

With the last sentence in this comment we are in entire accord.

### The Chlorate Explosion at Marseilles.

In the *C. & D.* for July 4, page 6, brief reference was made to the fact that a number of casks of potassium chlorate exploded at Marseilles. In view of the importance of the matter for this country, where so large quantities of potassium chlorate are made, and where, on account of the great explosion at St. Helens and the subsequent action for damages, a somewhat protracted controversy has been going on at the Society of Chemical Industry, we have thought it advisable to get as detailed and authentic information as possible. It appears that 122 barrels of potassium chlorate were shipped by the firm of Bergès, Corbin & Co., at Chedde, partly for Japan and partly for Bombay; a number of them contained powdered chlorate. Sixty barrels were already unloaded and placed in the sheds, and another cart-load was

being brought up, when one of the barrels slipped out of the hands of the workman, rolled against one of the cast-iron pillars of the shed, and exploded on striking it. This set fire to the other barrels, and they each exploded in turn to the number of 113, whilst nine remained intact. Although on account of the dense white fumes a vessel in the harbour is said to have stranded, very little damage was done in the docks. A simple brick wall, against which the barrels rested, had only a few cracks, but remained standing, and the wooden barriers were only charred; no accident happened to any of the workmen or fire-brigade men. From an examination of the remaining nine barrels made by Monsieur A. Gassend, by order of the Messageries Maritimes, it appears that the packing of the barrels left everything to be desired. This showed itself specially with the barrels containing powdered chlorate, where the paper lining was insufficient to prevent leakage, and from which it was easy to get a quantity of fine chlorate. The floor of the sheds being full of dust, chiefly of organic nature, the leaking chlorate dust formed an explosive mixture on the floor, and the barrels themselves were soiled with it, the dust even entering the interior. This is thought to be the reason of the explosion of the first barrel, and of its spreading to the others. The subsequent explosions, however, were not true explosions, but seem to have been more in the nature of violent bursts consequent upon the great heat, and this explains the comparative smallness of the damage. This accident shows again the importance of properly packing chlorate of potash, and also that it is not necessary, in order to get an explosion, that the whole of the chlorate should be brought to a very high temperature; but, on the contrary, that the explosion of a small quantity of priming composition is sometimes sufficient to set off a large quantity of chlorate.

### Post-office Business.

According to the annual report of the Postmaster-General, unsuccessful efforts have been made to extend the penny-letter scheme to the Commonwealth of Australia. The British Government decided that it could only be introduced on a basis of strict reciprocity, and the Australian Commonwealth Government refused to join because of the financial loss involved, their own inland rate for letters being 2d. More recently the latter Government expressed its willingness not to levy charges on letters sent to Australia from this country paid at the penny rate, while maintaining the rate of 2½d. for letters sent in the reverse direction. The Postmaster-General says that this proposal could not be agreed to, because it would inevitably result in the underpayment of large numbers of the letters sent to this country from Australia, to the disadvantage and annoyance of the recipients, who would be subjected to charges for deficient postage levied in this country in order to maintain the higher rate current in Australia. The total number of postal packets delivered in the United Kingdom during 1902-3 was 4,143,900,000, of which 2,579,500,000 were letters—an average of sixty-one each person. Postal orders to the amount of 32,900,000£. were issued, the commission produced being 392,475£. The revenue from telegrams has increased, and in regard to wireless telegraphy the Postmaster-General has explained to the Marconi Company that before the post office can be their agent, it must be satisfied that the company is in a position to carry on its business and transmit messages from one side of the Atlantic to the other. Apparently the company is not yet in a position to give the guarantee.

### In Thirty-nine Years.

The industrial advance of the United Kingdom within four decades is well shown by a table in the Registrar-General's Report for 1901 just issued. We have abridged



the table to show the imports and exports and the amount cleared per head of population of the United Kingdom :

Year	Exports of British Produce	Imports	Total Exports (and) Imports	Amount Cleared at the Bankers' Clearing- house
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£
1862 ...	4 4 10	7 14 4	13 8 0	—
1863 ...	4 19 6	8 8 11	15 2 7	—
1864 ...	5 8 1	9 5 3	16 8 7	—
1865 ...	5 10 10	9 1 2	16 7 5	—
1866 ...	6 5 4	9 15 11	17 14 5	—
1867 ...	5 19 0	9 1 0	16 9 6	—
1868 ...	5 17 1	9 12 1	17 0 6	158
1869 ...	6 2 8	9 10 9	17 3 9	162
1870 ...	6 7 8	9 14 1	17 10 3	174
1871 ...	7 1 5	10 9 10	19 9 6	210
1872 ...	8 0 10	11 2 7	21 0 0	255
1873 ...	7 18 7	11 10 10	21 4 2	264
1874 ...	7 7 5	11 7 9	20 11 0	249
1875 ...	6 16 2	11 7 10	19 19 4	235
1876 ...	6 0 11	11 6 1	19 0 10	203
1877 ...	5 18 6	11 15 0	19 5 5	203
1878 ...	5 13 8	10 17 5	18 2 1	200
1879 ...	5 11 9	10 11 9	17 16 10	195
1880 ...	6 8 11	11 17 8	20 3 3	222
1881 ...	6 14 0	11 7 4	19 17 5	244
1882 ...	6 17 2	11 14 7	20 8 10	236
1883 ...	6 15 4	12 0 10	20 13 2	223
1884 ...	6 10 6	10 18 4	19 4 1	215
1885 ...	5 18 4	10 6 0	17 16 9	202
1886 ...	5 17 2	9 12 8	17 0 10	214
1887 ...	6 1 3	9 17 11	17 11 8	218
1888 ...	6 7 2	10 10 3	18 12 2	247
1889 ...	6 13 11	11 10 1	19 19 10	268
1890 ...	7 0 7	11 4 6	19 19 7	271
1891 ...	6 10 9	11 10 4	19 13 10	235
1892 ...	5 19 1	11 2 2	18 15 0	229
1893 ...	5 13 4	10 10 1	17 14 0	218
1894 ...	5 11 1	10 9 11	17 10 9	211
1895 ...	5 15 2	10 12 3	17 17 10	249
1896 ...	6 1 2	11 2 11	18 12 5	245
1897 ...	5 17 0	11 5 4	18 12 4	240
1898 ...	5 15 6	11 12 10	18 18 4	257
1899 ...	6 9 7	11 17 9	19 19 4	287
1900 ...	7 1 6	12 14 2	21 6 4	278
1901 ...	6 14 10	12 11 3	20 18 9	293

These figures appear to show that exports and imports have increased since 1862 in about the same proportion.

### Returned.

A few months ago we gave particulars about the doings of a chemist's assistant who, under the assumed name of "Thomas C. Smith," had given trouble to several chemists in the Metropolis. We had heard nothing of him until the last Cape mail was received, and it brought us a note saying, "Smith has been out here looking for work. He did not get it, so shipped himself back months ago. He was recognised from the accounts the C. & D. gave of him."

### Intemperance in Drugs.

A physician has written a three-column article for the *Daily Graphic* on the "Drug-habit," which contains here and there a stray novel point. He combats the assertion that the excessive drug-taking alleged to be prevalent at the present day is the outcome of the neurotic stage to which modern civilisation has attained. Herodotus, he points out, tells of the Scythian warrior who used to build a fire inside his tent, throw upon it some seeds of the Indian hemp, and lie down on his couch of skins to enjoy the fascination of one of the most subtle intoxicants known to modern science.

Alcohol, tea, and tobacco are all drugs whose use is more or less abused, but he mentions particularly a list of fourteen drugs for the habitual use of which he has had to treat patients in his own practice. The doctor tells of a lady artist, a martyr to headaches, who used to keep a box of antipyrin by her easel, shovel some of the analgesic into the palm of her hand, and eat it as she worked. One day she overdid it, and it took two hours to pull her round. Caffein, according to this writer, has many admirers. A young married lady of his acquaintance, who suffers from neuralgia, cannot travel without her box of caffein tablets. But the most remarkable appears to be the "ginger-habit." On this point he says:

A patient of mine used to eat 2 and 3 lbs. of ginger-root in the twenty-four hours. The habit led to grave and well-nigh fatal digestive disturbances. Cases are recorded by other medical men which have produced fatal results. Spirituous essence of ginger is highly popular with ladies subject to types of dyspepsia. It is generally taken diluted with hot water and mixed with sugar, and occasionally takes the place of ordinary alcoholic beverages. One old lady patient, who was avowedly a teetotaler, used to consume 4 to 6 oz. of essence of ginger, containing more alcohol than a bottle of whisky, in twenty-four to twenty-eight hours. Constant use of the drug is most pernicious in its results.

He gives instances of the use of other medicated forms of alcohol. One lady consumed 10 oz. of sal volatile a day, while another bought her eau de cologne by the case and drank several dozen a week. A third used to get in compound tincture of cardamoms in bulk from a wholesale house and drink it by the quart.

### Poisonings in Madras.

The report of Colonel Van Geyzel, Government chemical examiner for Madras, states that the human poisoning cases investigated by him during the past year showed an excess of 23 per cent. over those of 1901. There were 111 cases, in which 217 individuals were affected, of whom 83 died. Arsenic is still the favourite toxic agent in Madras, as it is in other parts of India. Some of the fatalities are said to be the result of criminal negligence on the part of *pansaris*, *hakims*, *vaid*s, and grocers, who keep poisons stored with their ordinary drugs and often with foodstuffs. In one case reported by Colonel Van Geyzel the *pansari* with whom the accused had dealt could not remember whether he had sold curry-powder or two kinds of poison. Over 70 gr. of white arsenic was found in the victim's vomit, and the portions of the viscera sent for examination contained over 220 gr. The defence made much of the *pansari's* ignorance, and the accused got off. The *pansari* is still selling curry-stuff and deadly poison in his little booth, and some day there will be another accident. Several cases of death resulting from the administration of virulent poisons by native quacks have, as usual, been examined during the year. In one case a woman had colic. A *vaid* was called in and administered the juice of *Calotropis gigantea* (madar) and mercuric chloride! The woman died after sixteen hours of agony. The Sub-Magistrate who tried the case sapiently remarked, "It seems to me that the dose administered was too large, and the result was serious. The native quack no doubt administered the medicine in a larger dose than usual with a view to give early relief; on the other hand, it brought on a very sad result." We wonder what an English coroner would have said to an English chemist in the same circumstances. From Tanjore came reports of numerous deaths from arsenical poisonings. The arsenic was mixed with fruits and sweets, made into packets, and placed by the roadside or on trees. Poisoning by atropine and dhatara has increased in Southern India. Strychnine, opium, and morphine are very little used, and suicides generally resort to madar-juice already mentioned. Gunja is much used in compounding love-philtres, and plumbago-root is employed to produce abortion.



## The British Association.

THIS year's meeting in Southport commenced badly, for it rained daily last week until Saturday, and this damped ardour in the pursuit of science as well as pleasure. So far as regards the sections with which we are concerned there was nothing epoch-making.

### THE CHEMISTRY SECTION.

Professor W. N. Hartley delivered the presidential address on Thursday, September 10. This was wholly devoted to spectrum-analysis. First he dealt with absorption-spectra, incidentally speaking about the infra-red region, the visible rays or colour region, the ultra-violet region, of molecular and intra-molecular vibrations, curves of molecular vibrations, position isomerism, stereo-isomerism, tautomerism, the absorption-spectra of alkaloids, and stereo-isomerism in the alkaloids. This comprised a history of work done in each of these branches during recent years. He then spoke of emission-spectra, also referring to radio-active elements.

On Friday Sir Henry Roscoe formally reported to the Section what had resulted in regard to duty-free alcohol for research, after which some observations on

### LOW-TEMPERATURE RESEARCH

were communicated by Professor James Dewar. In the first paper he gave a comparison of the densities of solid hydrogen and nitrogen compared with water at 4° C. The second was by Dr. Allan MacLachlan, and described the employment of low temperatures for effecting the disintegration of living cells. From this it appears that diseased animal tissues had been treated with liquid air (−190° C.), and their intra-cellular constituents obtained—*e.g.*, epithelium, cancer-tissues, &c. Moulds, yeasts, and bacteria had been rapidly triturated under the same conditions, and the respective cell-juices submitted to examination. In this way it had been demonstrated that the typhoid organism contains within itself a toxin. From these and other researches it has become evident that there exists a distinct class of toxins and ferments, which are contained and operate within the cell or bacterium. To this class belongs the diphtheria-toxin. The rabies-virus has not yet been detected or isolated. The seat of the unknown rabies-virus is the nervous system, and if the brain-substance of a rabid animal is ground for a given length of time at the temperature of liquid air its infective properties as regarded rabies are abolished.

### COLOURS OF IODIDES.

Mr. William Ackroyd, of Leeds, read a paper which consisted of data confirming the general law of the relation of colour to chemical constitution stated by the author in 1892. Briefly it is that in related compounds of the general formula,  $A_xB_y$ , as  $B$  increases in weight (either in atomic mass or multiple of atomic mass) there is increase of absorption of light in definite manner, so that the visible effect is progression in the metachromatic scale from the white towards the black end. Iodides conform to the law; the more heavily weighted molecules have colours nearer the black end of the scale, while the lighter ones, on the other hand, come nearer the white end. Thus in vertical series of the periodic classification arsenic tri-iodide is orange as compared with the red of antimony and bismuth tri-iodides; magnesium, zinc, and cadmium iodides are white, while mercuric iodide is yellow or red. In the periodic groups there are forty-one examples of iodides; only three are apparently uncomformable, two of these being doubtful exceptions. When there is more than one iodide of the same metal we have again conformity to rule, thus:  $Hg_2I_2$  is olive green, and  $HgI_2$  yellow or red.

Mr. A. R. Ling (Secretary of the London Section S.C.I.) communicated three papers on

### STARCH HYDROLYSIS.

In conjunction with Mr. B. F. Davis he showed that when diastase is heated in aqueous solution at 60°–70° C. for a short time, the molecule of the enzyme is altered, so that products are obtained by its action on potato-starch paste differing from those produced by unheated diastase; thus *d*-glucose is formed, the amount increasing up to a maximum of 12 per cent. of the total products. After this stage the

glucose diminishes in amount, and in some cases disappears altogether. It was suggested by Mr. Ling that the reason no *d*-glucose is found by the action of unheated diastase is that the condensing action of the latter is very pronounced. He brings forward evidence showing that the so-called "isomaltose" of Lintner, recently named dextrinose by Syniewski, is a product of the condensation of glucose. In a third paper Mr. Ling submitted data obtained by studying the action of diastase on potato-starch paste, showing that they do not apply to starch-transformation in the brewery. He showed that the starch derived both from raw and malted barley is dissolved and hydrolysed by diastase at a temperature below its gelatinising-point, and that the optical and cupric reducing constants differ according to the sample of grain the starch is derived from. It is probable that the malting-value of barleys may be largely due to the condition of the starch.

Another interesting paper was by Dr. E. P. Perman on the influence of small quantities of water in bringing about

### CHEMICAL REACTION BETWEEN SALTS.

He experimented with dried lead chloride and potassium iodide, and found that in a sealed flask the mixture became a faint-yellow colour in a week; also that 0.5 milligram of water was necessary in order to make the reaction immediately visible. Lead formate and lead nitrate were found to act in a similar way to the chloride. Lead sulphate reacts much more slowly, while the carbonate and the oxide react very slowly indeed. Dried mercuric chloride and potassium iodide gave a strong red coloration on mixing, but mercuric cyanide showed no reaction with potassium iodide. Mercuric chloride and potassium chromate reacted very slowly, although exposed to the air.

### COBALT AND NICKEL.

Mr. R. L. Taylor has found that if a perfectly neutral and not too concentrated solution is used, cobalt is precipitated quantitatively as a black oxide in five or ten minutes by either barium or calcium carbonate in presence of bromine-water. The two carbonates appear to act equally well, but the former is to be preferred if the subsequent removal of the added metal is desired. Whichever carbonate is used it should be in the precipitated form, made into a paste with water. Free carbonic acid prevents the precipitation of the cobalt, and zinc considerably interferes with the reaction. The precipitated black oxide of cobalt is fairly constant in composition, and approximates closely to the formulae  $Co_3O_{11}$  and  $Co_2O_{11}$ . Its composition is sufficiently uniform to enable it to be used as a means for the volumetric determination of cobalt, by finding the amount of iodine which it liberates.

### RADIO-ACTIVITY.

In the course of his presidential address to the Physical Section, Mr. Vernon Boys spoke of radium, and at the conclusion of the address there was a long discussion on that wonderful metal, several members of the Chemical Section participating. Professor E. Rutherford, of McGill University, opened it with a *résumé* of the work done by him and Mr. Solly, and was followed by Sir Oliver Lodge, who read a communication from Lord Kelvin. It was pointed out, as a result of observation and experiment, that radium has been found to emit three types of rays—(1) the  $\alpha$  rays, positively electrified and largely stopped by solid, liquid, or gaseous screens; (2)  $\beta$  rays, more penetrative than  $\alpha$  and negatively electrified; (3)  $\gamma$  rays, electrically neutral and much more penetrative than either of the other two, passing with but little loss through a lead screen 1 cm. thick, which is an almost perfect screen against the other rays. A simple *prima facie* view is to regard the  $\gamma$  rays as merely vapour of radium; the  $\beta$  rays seem certainly to be atoms of resinous electricity, or electrons. The  $\alpha$  rays, according to Lord Kelvin's resuscitation of the doctrine of *Æpinus*, are atoms or molecules of matter, probably atoms of radium, or perhaps molecules of bromide of radium. He discussed these matters in detail, concluding that every substance must possess radio-activity, radium being 300,000,000 times more active than the most active common material yet experimented with. How is this enormous radio-activity of radium to be accounted for? Lord Kelvin suggested that it may be because it is exceedingly polyelectronic; that the saturating quantum of electrons in an atom of radium may be hundreds or



thousands or millions of times as many as those of atoms of ordinary material. But this leaves the mystery of radium untouched. As to Curie's discovery that it perpetually emits heat at a rate of about 90 Centigrade calories per gram per hour, Lord Kelvin advanced theoretic reasons for disbelieving the possibility—at all events, that the statement should not be accepted until experiments have been made with radium surrounded by thick lead.

Professor H. E. Armstrong followed with observations on the work done by him and Dr. Lowrie (*Nature*, September 3); and, after Mr. Soddy had spoken, Professor Dewar gave particulars of the experiments made by him and M. Curie, which supported the correctness of the latter's temperature observations, this being substantially a reply to Lord Kelvin's criticism. Professor Schuster then read a paper on "Cosmical Radio-activity." He said we are living in an electric field through which negatively charged particles are constantly driven outwards (kathode rays), and which possesses an electric conductivity similar to that found in the neighbourhood of radio-active bodies. The radio-activity of air rising out of the ground or of water drawn out of wells may be the consequence of emanations from a radio-active earth.

The discussion was continued by other authorities, but we have not advanced sufficiently far with observations to warrant agreement. Mr. A. C. Seward's presidential address to the Botanical Section was on the composition and distribution of

#### THE FLOWERS OF THE PAST.

This was an exceedingly able review of palaeontological observations, and in concluding he said we may compare the stages of plant-evolution to the records of changing architectural styles represented in Gothic buildings. The simple Norman arch and massive pier are replaced, with apparent suddenness, by the pointed arch and detached shafts of the thirteenth century; the latter style, which marked an architectural phase characterised by local variations subordinated to a uniformity in essential features, was replaced by one in which simplicity was superseded by elaboration, and new elements were added leading to greater complexity and a modification of plan. Similarly the Palaeozoic facies of vegetation passes with almost startling suddenness into that which monopolised the world in the Mesozoic era, and was in turn superseded by the more highly elaborated and less homogeneous vegetation of the Cretaceous and Tertiary periods. In taking a superficial view of architectural styles we are apt to lose sight of the signs of gradual transition by which one period passes into the next; so, too, in our retrospect of the changing scenes which mark the progress of plant-evolution, we easily overlook the introduction of new types and the gradual substitution of new for old. The invention of a new principle in the construction of buildings is soon followed by its wide adoption; new conceptions become stereotyped, and in a comparatively few years the whole style is altered. As a new and successful type of plant-architecture is produced it rapidly comes into prominence and acts as the most potent factor in changing the facies of a flora. Making due allowances for the imperfection of the geological record, we cannot escape from the conclusion, which is by no means opposed to our ideas of the operation of the laws governing evolutionary forces, that the state of equilibrium in the vegetable kingdom was rudely shaken during two revolutionary periods. The earlier transitional period occurred when Conifers and Cycads became firmly established, while for the second revolution the introduction of the Angiospermous type was mainly responsible. As in the half-effaced documents accessible to the student of architecture "the pedigrees of English Gothic can still be recovered," so also we are able to trace in the registers imprinted on the rocks the genealogies of existing botanical types.

#### NEXT YEAR AND THE NEXT.

The General Committee in the course of the meeting received an invitation to hold the 1905 meeting in South Africa, and it was accepted. The Association has previously visited Canada. Next year's meeting will be in Cambridge, under the presidency of the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour. The membership of the Southport meeting was a little under eighteen hundred, or nearly one thousand less than at the last meeting there in 1883.

## West Indian Grass Oils.

By ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C.

IN the March issue of the *Bulletin* of the Department of Agriculture for Jamaica an account of some grass oils distilled in Trinidad and in Jamaica was given by the Jamaica official analyst, Mr. H. H. Cousins. It appears that a vigorous attempt is intended to take up the cultivation of the *Andropogon* grasses, with a view to developing the essential-oil industry, on account of the reduced cultivation of the sugar-cane. The Trinidad oils distilled experimentally were those of *Andropogon Nardus* and *A. Schenanthus*, and were found to possess the following characters:

	<i>A. Nardus</i>	<i>A. Schenanthus</i>
Sp. gr. at 15° ...	0.9084	0.9315
Rotation ...	+0.1°	+3°
Aldehydes ...	15.5 per cent.	48.2 per cent.

The oil from *A. Nardus* showed a total geraniol and citronellal value of 53 per cent., and thus corresponds with an ordinary Ceylon citronella oil, except that its content in active constituents is somewhat low. This, however, is possibly accidental, and with proper distillation a normal oil would no doubt result. The *A. Schenanthus* oil did not in the least resemble a palmarosa oil, but much more closely resembles lemongrass oil.

I am indebted to Mr. Cousins for samples of the Jamaica oils, which are of very great interest. I propose to investigate them more fully, but in the meantime give the following details of them:

The oil from *A. Nardus* is a pale oil of exceptionally fine odour, and has the following characters:

Sp. gr. at 15° ...	0.8955
Rotation, 100 mm. ...	-3° 30'
Refractive index at 20° ...	1.4712
Aldehydes ...	25 per cent.
Geraniol and citronellal ...	87 per cent.

In general it appears to closely resemble the fine Java citronella oils, being of much finer odour than the normal Ceylon distillates. It is soluble in 1 volume of 80-per-cent. alcohol, and on addition of 10 volumes shows only the faintest opalescence. If it could be produced at a reasonable price in quantity, it would no doubt find great favour in this market. Messrs. Schimmel & Co. have reported on what appears to be the same oil, and say that it takes about an intermediate place between the Java and Ceylon oils; but I am of opinion that it is more of the Java type than of the Ceylon.

The Jamaica oil distilled from *A. Schenanthus* is not a palmarosa oil, and is accurately described as a true lemongrass oil. This raises the question as to which grass is really the parent of lemongrass oil, as it appears out of the question that so enormous a change in the character of the product could take place by the grass being cultivated in Jamaica.

This lemongrass oil has the following characters:

Sp. gr. at 15° ...	0.8365
Rotation, 100 mm. ...	-0° 30'
Aldehydes ...	83 per cent.
Refractive index at 20° ...	1.4893
Insoluble in 70-per-cent. or 80-per-cent. alcohol.	

The oil is a typically fine lemongrass oil, with a very high aldehyde-content, and differs only from normal Eastern oils in its insolubility in alcohol. The insoluble portion of the oil is a heavy body, sinking to the bottom of the alcohol, which I am now investigating. Apart from this insolubility, which may not be normal, and may be found to disappear when the oil is distilled under normal conditions, the oil may be described as a fine lemongrass oil, with a very high citral value; and, since the value of lemongrass oil depends entirely on its citral-content, the oil should command a ready market if produced at a reasonable price.



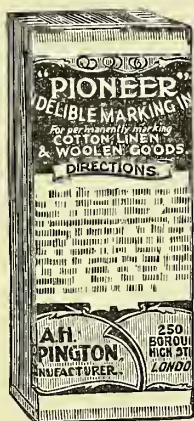
## Trade Notes.

Messrs. BLEASDALE (LIMITED), of York, have now ready 200 "own" specialities for chemists which conform with the new medicine-stamp duty regulations.

WM. SCHWEITZER'S DANDELION COFFEE has been purchased by Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Kemp (Limited), of Liverpool, and they purpose advertising it as a chemist's article.

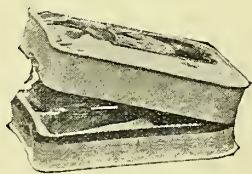
"LUNG-TONIC" PROTECTED.—The executors of the late W. T. Owbridge, of Hull, have formulated a scheme for the protection of the retail prices of Owbridge's lung- tonic, which will commend itself to chemists. The margin between the wholesale price and the minimum retail price under the new scheme leaves a fair profit to the retailer. Full particulars of the scheme will be found in our advertising columns.

THE "PIONEER" MARKING-INK manufactured by Mr. A. H. Uppington, 250 Borough High Street, S.E., is one in which no heating or mixing is required, and which may be used with pen, stamp, or stencil-plate. The 1s. size is packed in square cartons, as shown in the illustration, and the 6d. size is in a neat round carton. The ink in the larger size is contained in a glass-stoppered bottle. This style of container has obvious advantages.



"FLINBLOW," the asthma-cure, is now in season for the home trade, and all patent-medicine houses can supply retailers with stock and advertising-matter.

CHRISTMAS PERFUMERY.—Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), of Birmingham, have just published their catalogue of perfumery specially put up for Christmas trade. In this the caskets and cases, as well as a selection of the bottles, are printed by the three-colour process, so that buyers who cannot inspect samples get a very fair idea of the effective and artistic style in which the firm do this class of business. We have had the opportunity of comparing the actual samples with the colour reproductions, and can



say that the art does not flatter the actuality, and our monochrome of an embossed floral case (see above) gives a faint idea of the artistic character of the get-up. This specimen is fairly typical, but there are others more beautiful; for

example, one in imitation ivory with puffed satin edge on the lid, and the centre graced with a plush flower and leaf. There is a large variety of cases to choose from, and the bottles are equally diverse. We illustrate two of them. Any of our subscribers can get a copy of the list on application to the firm. We may also note that the firm offer to supply any chemist in the United Kingdom with sample assortments, carriage paid, for 1l. In one set there are twenty varieties, in another thirteen, and in another nine, the retail prices ranging from 1s. to 4s. 6d. Reference to the catalogue shows how each assortment is made up. The firm are booking orders now for delivery at any time desired, and any sent between now and December will be invoiced as from December 1.

PRICES OF BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.—It will be remembered (see *C. & D.*, June 27, page 1926) that the wholesale prices of Dr. Collis Browne's chlorodyne were, on June 30, altered by the manufacturers, Messrs. J. T. Davenport (Limited), now of 117 Union Street, S.E., to the following rates:

Size	...	...	1 1/2	2/9	4/6	11/-
Minimum retail price	...	...	1/-	2/6	4/-	10/-
Price to trade, per dozen	...	...	10/-	26/-	42/-	104/-

Discount: 5 per cent. on 1l. worth, 10 per cent. on 5l. worth.

Through an oversight an advertisement appeared in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of September 5, in which the old prices were given, and, in case any misunderstanding may have arisen thereby, we again call attention to the new prices which are in no circumstances varied, they being on the P.A.T.A. list.

## Personalities.

MR. ALFRED MOND contributes to the *Manchester Guardian* series of articles on protection and industry one on the chemical industries.

DR. F. W. PASSMORE, of Messrs. Helbing & Passmore, 63 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., sailed for New York by the *Teutonic* on Wednesday, on a short professional visit.

MR. FRED WOODS, pharmaceutical chemist, Melbourne, Vic., arrived in London this week. Mr. Woods hopes to get some experience of English and continental pharmacy before returning to Australia.

MR. DAVID HOOPER, F.C.S., F.L.S., curator, Economic and Art Section, Indian Museum, Calcutta, left London this week, with Mrs. Hooper, to resume his official duties, after three months' holiday in England.

MR. FRANK BACKHURST, pharmaceutical chemist, Flinders Street, Melbourne, Vic., is now on a visit to the Old Country, and communications to him may be addressed to the care of Messrs. H. P. Thompson & Co., 93 Aldersgate Street, E.C.

MR. A. J. NOBLE, of Bombay, has been appointed representative in India and Ceylon by the Institut Pasteur, of Paris, for the therapeutic serums produced by the Institut. Mr. Noble is returning to India *via* the United States and Japan.

## Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

**Tuesday, September 22.**

**Bradford and District Chemists' Association.** Annual meeting at the Royal Hotel, Darley Street, at 9 p.m.

**Thursday, September 24.**

**Barnsley and District Chemists' Association,** Royal Hotel, at 7 p.m. Agenda: (1) Minutes, (2) correspondence, (3) medicine-stamp regulations.

TWICE during the past fortnight Preston chemists have tried to meet, but in vain. The Secretary again calls them together for Tuesday evening next—usual place and time.





**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### Mostly about Incense.

SIR,—“Xrayser’s” query, Who supplies the incense? deserves more than a passing thought. I calculate that some four thousand churches in Great Britain and Ireland consume it, and probably very many more if we count all the Ritualists. Yet you could count on the fingers of your hand the chemists who make it. We had a worthy canon amongst our customers who faithfully brought in his prescriptions, and one day I ventured to inquire from whom he bought his incense. The cleric retorted that he liked to encourage every man in his own trade, and that he procured his incense from his chandler. I was speechless with indignation at the idea of the tallow and paraffin man being the proper person to make incense, and reminded his reverence that the formula for incense in Exodus distinctly required that it should be “compounded by the art of the apothecary,” as the Douay version has it. The Vulgate gives the word as “unguentarius,” and hence it is often translated as perfumer, but, anyhow, the chemist, and not the chandler, is the legitimate successor of the “unguentarius.” But the fact remains that almost all the chemists in Ireland who make incense—and I know the same to be true of some in England—supply it not directly, but through the chandlers or church-furnishing people.

Some time since I was fired with ambition to reproduce an incense according to the biblical instruction. Less wise than “Xrayser,” I did not merely content myself with the encyclopædical information, but exhausted all the books of biblical reference in the National Library, as well as several clergymen. The result was vexation of spirit. Every book repeated the statement of the other, with the occasional addition of an obviously inane conjecture. Even the statement that only olibanum is used in Rome (which I tracked back to Piesse’s work) I was unable to confirm or subvert, as priests who had been in Rome seemed to think that the incense used in Rome was pretty much the same as is used here, and much of that, I can vouch, is made from a formula very much like that of “Xrayser.” They were also under the impression that a formula was set forth in the rubrics, but this I have never been able to discover, and certainly nothing can be more varied than the descriptions used. For the purposes of my experiment I decided that olibanum was “stacte,” or that which drops, and I found convenient to identify onycha with “benzoin” as “something shining like a nail.” Galbanum and myrrh were also used, but the resulting compound had an unpleasantly alliaceous odour; in fact, much inferior to the modern taste to plain gum olibanum powder, and which nobody would offer as incense unless he wished to lose his customer. There is, indeed, a statement of Piesse concerning gum olibanum which I was able to confirm. He states that one of the most largely used kinds supplied by druggists consisted merely of gum olibanum of poor quality, and lately testing the supply of one of the largest makers in England I found that such was the case. I rather think that one of the reasons why chemists do not supply more incense is that they are too moderate in their prices. Some of the church-furnishing people charge up to 7s. 6d. per lb. for it, and as the home druggists lack the nerve to charge anything like that price, they obtain it from France. From the rubrical point of view this incense is an awful abomination, smelling of santal wood, cinnamon, musk, and civet, whilst the cheaper qualities are a mere powdered fumigating pastille. Some considerable degree of skill is required to produce a good incense, for that which smells well in powder does not when volatilised in the censer, and, obviously, the harmony of the combination of odours must

be altered with the rate of their fumigation. Hence the smell of the incense in the tin is no guide to the odour of its smoke.

Yours truly,

Dublin, September 13.

J. C. MCWALTER.

SIR,—I have just read “Xrayser’s” remarks *re* incense, so send a copy of a recipe I came across some years ago. It was marked to be sold at 4s. per lb.:

Gum. olibani ...	...	...	lb. j. 3iv.
Gum. benzoin. ...	...	...	3vj.
Cort. cascar. ...	...	...	3v.
Cort. cassiæ ...	...	...	3ij.
Caryoph. arom. ...	...	...	3ij.

M. et contrit simul donec ft. pulv.

Yours truly,

Leicester, September 12.

W. THIRLBY.

SIR,—The following formula produces an incense which is perfectly satisfactory in every respect to the clergy and congregations of Roman and Anglican churches wherever it has been used:

Gum olibanum, in small tears ...	1 lb.
Gum benzoin, coarsely powdered ...	1½ oz.
Cascarilla-bark, coarsely powdered ...	1 oz.
Styrax calamita ...	½ oz.

EDW. BERDOE, M.R.C.S.

Victoria Park Gate, N.E., September 11.

[Four years ago an interesting discussion took place in these pages on incense, under the heading, “What is Onycha?” It began in our issue of August 19, 1899, and concluded in the issue for September 16. Incidentally the composition of incense was considered.—EDITOR.]

#### The London Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I have read with interest what you wrote in your editorial notes and also the reply by my friends Messrs. Umney and Tyrer, as the result of my observations in the *Standard*, that the voice of the merchants of the City of London should not be measured by the doings of the London Chamber of Commerce. In saying so I was fully aware that in recent years a drug, and to some extent also a chemical, section (mainly that part of the chemical-trade connected with medicine) has made itself at home in that corporation; but when I wrote on the fiscal problem, I had, as a merchant and in touch with far-reaching import and export interests in connection with the trade of London, a totally different object in mind than what Mr. Tyrer usually has anything to do with. All the wonderful preparations which Mr. Tyrer manufactures, and which we are all happy to use when we require them, are of extremely little importance and value as a factor in the many millions which are the object of the trade of London, and it is that very important interest which I contend, and which every far more important merchant than myself will confirm, is not represented in the London Chamber of Commerce, and it would be a great mistake of the politician to assume that the voice of that Chamber, such as it is constituted and such as I knew it when it was first engineered, can be taken as serious. Once already the London Chamber of Commerce has been taken as authoritative when a handful of wirepullers made it speak for the merchants of London on the merchandise-marks question, and one must, after that, tremble at the thought that this corporation may again be made use of. It was only this anxiety which, when bringing forward the fact that the great portion of the London trade which is being done from continental ports ought to be considered by the politician, made me mention the London Chamber of Commerce at all.

Yours respectfully,

London, September 11.

AUG. ZIMMERMANN.

#### Local Trade not Interfered With.

SIR,—Referring to the correspondence in “Sheffield Notes” in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, our representative has definite instructions, when calling upon the chemists in the different iron and steel works in and around Sheffield for orders, to ascertain first if the chemical apparatus is being purchased or ordered locally, and if so, not to in any way induce them to give the orders to him direct. He has also had instructions to inform the wholesale chemists on whom he calls that they were buying the goods locally.

Yours faithfully,

London, E.C., September 14.

TOWNSON & MERCER.



## Mineral Oil for Fish-frying.

SIR,—In reference to the reply to "A. K." (141/61), I should like to mention that I have met with numerous cases of serious illness which have been induced by the use of mineral oil for fish-frying, instead of cotton-seed. No mineral oil is suitable. In the *C. & D.*, three or four years ago, was a report of a law-action on the ground of damage through mineral oil being supplied to the retailer by the wholesaler, and since then at least one firm has put a special brass label on all casks used for cottonseed oil, so as to prevent the possibility of ever a mineral oil cask being used to hold cotton oil.

Yours truly,  
H. R. G. (147/40.)

## What is This?

SIR,—I have come across a liquid, clear, colourless, no odour, which is used for horses in lameness, splint, and the like. It is rubbed into the horse's leg, where affected, by the hand. It does not affect the hand at all, but acts on the horse's leg as a sort of long-continued blister, causing a scurf to appear and continue for a fortnight, and in cases of lameless and the like has worked some wonderful cures. It is used in small quantity, and if used in too large a quantity causes the leg to swell up very much; this, however, passes off in a few days or a week, and the horse usually comes all right.

WHAT IS THIS? (147/40.)

## P.A.T.A. Profits.

SIR,—We retail traders cannot help admiring the splendid work done by the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, and we esteem the action of manufacturers who place their proprietaries on the protected list. But do we not all recognise by this time that the extra slice of profit comes out of the customer's pockets and goes into the manufacturers' pockets? We used to get 9½d. and now get 1s. for the same article from the generous public! So far, well; but what is the next step? I have seen children have a "suck" at a sweet all round till it disappears down the owner's gullet, leaving the others the more ardently desiring what they cannot obtain. That is just what these proprietors do; they send an antedated notice to this effect, "The price from this date will be 10s. 6½. per dozen, 5½. lots 10 per cent. discount for cash." Translated this reads, "Oh, poor retailer who cannot buy 5½. lots, when you have paid carriage on your small quantities we secure to you 10 per cent. for your worries, investment, and expenses." And the chemist actually blesses his benefactor! The thoughtful chemist wants to know when he cashes up he has got 25 per cent. all round, and when the proprietors of patents learn to give and not to extort there will be more brotherly regard, to the benefit of all and injury of none. So, Mr. Pata, while we wish you good speed, and believe in your good intentions, we say look well after Messrs. —, —, & Co., unlimited, who mean well, but are too mean, and speak up for your brethren of very limited means.

Yours practically,  
A SON OF JESSE. (145/24)

## Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1903,  
before formulating Queries.

145/48. *C. E.*—Your unqualified partner will get into trouble if his name appears in the business and the shop is kept open for retailing poisons. See "Pharmacy Law" in our DIARY.

85/22. *Nomen.*—The blinds of the residential part of business premises are house furnishings, and in selling are estimated apart from the business.

## Formulas for Known, Admitted, and Approved Remedies.

49/19. *J. E.*—When we have the formulas in perfect shape we shall publish in the *C. & D.* a statement which will enable everyone interested to get labels and everything ready in good time before the ailment-name rule comes into force.

## Ailment-names.

31/3. *H. W.*—(1) The aperient-lozenges label contains a sufficient disclosure. (2) The balsamic-lozenges label contains no recommendation except the words "When the cough is troublesome," which the Board of Inland Revenue have recently said is not liable. (See *C. & D.*, August 8, page 273.)

59/18. *C. L. S.*—(1) Your household-embrocation label is liable, because it holds out the preparation for sprains. (2) It is not dutiable to say that an article is an aperient. (3) "Prevents decay" is a dutiable statement regarding a compounded dentifrice, decay of the teeth being unquestionably a complaint of the human body; but it is not dutiable to say of a dentifrice that it "prevents bacterial action and growth of tartar, which induce decay of the teeth."

29/30. *W. N.*—(1) "Chemical food" is not liable if it is not recommended for the prevention or cure of ailments. The labels commonly used generally enlarge on the importance of phosphate for growing children, and that the chemical food is to form blood and bones. This is not a dutiable statement. (2) As long as hair-lotions are not said to cure or prevent diseases of the scalp they are not liable. "Falling off of the hair" is not an ailment, disorder, malady, or complaint, in the sense of the Act; it is more frequently than not a natural process.

45/20. *G. C. J.*—It is not illegal to use the words "trade-mark" under a mark which is not registered. Your label is therefore all right.

132/35. *W. L. B.*—It is not dutiable to say that an article is an aperient, and we do not consider that the ruling which comes into force on December 31 will make any difference. That is to apply to titles which include the names of ailments or parts of the human body. An aperient is not necessarily a remedy: many people regard an aperient as necessary for them as soap and water for their hands and face.

30/30. *G. L. D.*—"C. & D. Formula" will not always suffice as "*C. & D. D.*, 1904, No. —," will need to be used in some cases.

127/57. *E. B. P.*—(1) The children's friend and cherry-balsam are liable now, so that you cannot take advantage of Exemption 3 unless you sell the articles under entirely different names. (2) The same applies to the digestion-remedy by inference, but this is doubtful. (3) As to the gripe-mixture, see reply to "*G. L. D.*" (4) You cannot retail a liquid loose, unless it be in draughts taken at the counter or the customer pours it in a bottle.

127/85. *E. W.*—The Pullna salt is exempted by the Act of 1833, and the formula need not be published.

127/90. *Attrass.*—Of the labels which you send one is not liable now nor will be—viz., blood-purifier. If you remove the word "all" (before "nits") in the hair-lotion label, it will not be liable, as it is at present. The anodyne-essence and corn-solvent labels are at present liable and the rest will be on December 31. Publication of the formulas in our DIARY will make you safe.

145/62. *J. W. M. B.*—(1) The blood-purifier and syrup-of-figs labels are not liable, but the rest will be on December 31. (2) See reply to "*W. L. B.*" (3) Verbal recommendations by a chemist to his customer do not make a medicine dutiable: the recommendation must be written or printed (see THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1903, page 521). If a customer comes into one's shop and asks for something that is good for a cough, and the chemist gives him a mixture labelled "A tablespoonful every four hours," even telling him that it will cure him, the mixture does not require to be stamped.

145/53. *Suez.*—We have ascertained from Somerset House that the formula for a preparation must be so indicated on the label that it can be absolutely identified. See reply to "*A. H.*" last week. We shall deal fully with the whole matter soon.

147/70. *D. D.*—There is nothing in your foot-powder label to make it liable to stamp-duty. The handbill is also



all right. The phrase "keeping the feet healthy" may be objected to, but the Acts do not tax means for the preservation of health; it is medicines for the prevention of disease which are hit at. We are always pleased to mark labels and return them by post when stamped and addressed envelopes are sent with them, but not otherwise.

149/28. *J. B. S.*—We shall keep your suggestions in mind.

149/23. *J. Y.*—At present the Board of Inland Revenue permit such titles as "Smith's compound tincture of benzoin, prepared according to the British Pharmacopœia." We say "permit," but they really cannot interfere, and the same applies to "Smith's indigestion-mixture, prepared according to 'Pharmaceutical Formulas, III.'"

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

235/10. *Aleppo.*—(1) Nurses are not competent persons to undertake the electrolytic destruction of superfluous hair. (2) Strictly speaking, the dentifrice should be labelled "Poison," and only be sold by registered persons; but it is a principle in the administration of the Pharmacy Acts to take no notice of the sale of infinitesimal quantities of scheduled poison. (3) Poison can be given away without infringing the Pharmacy Act.

255/61. *R. H.*—(1) We cannot say the amount of proof spirit that will be formed in the orange-wine made from the formula given in the *C. & D.*, March 21, page 486, as the quantity will vary according to the way the fermentation is carried out. (2) A "sweets" licence is required if you intend making orange-wine for sale (see *DIARY*, page 282). (3) Lime-water can be made of B.P. strength when using tap-water, unless the latter is exceptionally hard. You can easily find this out by using Proctor's test.

255/41. *Linimentum.*—Soap in Liniment.—We do not know what formula you use; but potash or soda, if not present in the other ingredients, would reveal the probable presence of soap.

25/7. *A. E. D.*—The basis used for Typewriting-ink is syrup and glycerin. The proportions vary; but, taking strong aniline solution (aqueous) 6 parts, 6 parts of syrup and 4 of glycerin would be needed. Another formula we have gives equal parts of syrup and glycerin with 1 part of linseed-oil varnish.

60/54. *Jim the Penman.*—(1) Allen's nitrometer is a modification of Lunge's. (2) Standards for Tinctures, &c.—The tables which Mr. F. W. Fletcher published in the *C. & D.*, July 7, 1900, page 12, are the best published so far. In the same volume (lvii.) you will find many other references to the subject. The L.G.B. of Ireland's standards were printed in the *C. & D.*, October 11, 1902, page 629. (3) *Liq. Ferri Phosph.*—This is made by the B.P. process for syr. ferri phosph., using less water and adding a little hypophosphorous acid as a preservative. The sp.gr. is not a trustworthy guide as to the percentage of phosphate of iron in such a preparation.

75/53. *Cucumber.*—Glycerin and Cucumber Paste:

Curd soap	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Cucumber pomade	...	...	...	...	3iij.
Glycerin	...	...	...	...	3j.
Oil of rose-geranium	...	...	...	...	℥xx.
Oil of lemon	...	...	...	...	℥xx.
Distilled water	...	...	...	...	3iv.

Dissolve the soap in half the water and mix with the pomade previously melted in a hot mortar. Allow to stand twelve hours, then incorporate the rest of the water and the perfumes.

To make glycerin and cucumber for retail dilute to 2 pints with distilled water.

121/65. *H. C. G.*—Liquid Soap for hairdressers' use.—We are not acquainted with the kind you mention. These preparations are made by dissolving *sapo mollis* 3ij. in aqua Oj. and adding one or two ounces of a spirit. The spirit is a suitable vehicle for perfume, and a tarry flavour could be given by the addition of a little liq. carbonis detergens.

122/22. *A. W. H.*—We cannot find out the address of the makers of the Laundry-blue. Why not make the article yourself? A good blue may be made by dissolving Chinese blue in water by the aid of half its weight of oxalic acid.

68/25. *R. S. (Antwerp).*—Gapes in Poultry is caused by the presence of parasites or entozoa in the windpipe. The best treatment is to expose the affected birds to the fumes of heated carbolic acid up to the point of suffocation. The birds may be placed in a box with a hot brick upon which carbolic acid has been placed. Another method of applying the carbolic-acid cure is to mix carbolic acid with a fine powder such as precipitated chalk or kieselsguhr—the latter is preferable—and, putting the birds into a close place, create a dust with the medicated powder.

67/6. *W. M. M.*—Gapes in Poultry.—See reply to "R. S." (68/25). We do not reply by post.

69/45. *Waverley.*—(1) Syrup of Figs.—See "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 608, or *C. & D.*, April 20, 1901, page 665. (2) You can see several kinds of tablet-machines at Maw's, and from the *C. & D.* advertisement-pages you will see that Allen & Hanburys (Bethnal Green, E) and Colton (Detroit) supply special machines for this purpose.

61/57. *G. T.*—Fungoid growths are developed in aqueous solutions of many salts, such as pot. brom. if the water is not sterilised, and the solution also, before filtration.

50/54. *G. E. P.*—You will find glyc. plumbi subacet. filter quickly enough through absorbent cotton-wool in a hot-water-jacketed filter.

68/40. *Quercus.*—Have you tried the Black Varnish for recipes in "Pharmaceutical Formulas"? If you tell us what formulas you have been unsuccessful with, we might be able to suggest the cause of failure or give other recipes.

42/27. *Beeswax.*—(1) A dose of one of the "Pick-me-up" tinctures given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" (page 433), with a split soda, makes one of the best pick-me-ups for good-class trade. (2) There is no book on "counter" French such as you ask for, but by reading Dorvault's "L'Officine" or a similar work you would become acquainted with the French names of drugs, chemicals, and galenicals.

74/43. *Radium.*—The action of the ammonia on resorcin is sufficient to account for the occasional darkening you experience in the hair-wash.

76/46. *Tieth.*—So far we have only heard good of the administration of ethyl chloride as an anæsthetic in tooth-extraction. It is said not to depress the heart. We shall note any further developments in the use of the drug as they take place.

### Information Wanted.

143/51. Address of proprietors or agents of Fletcher's pills.

149/23. Variegated or coloured card for showcards: where obtainable?

150/31. Where are large 3½d. tablets of oatmeal soap obtainable?

149/28. Where can small lots of decorated tin boxes for asthma-powders be obtained?

147/50. Address of manufacturers of Judd's carbocucalyptic bath-salt and other preparations.



## Brighton Association of Pharmacy.

A MEETING was held at the Old Ship Hotel on Thursday, September 10, at 8.30 P.M. Mr. W. H. Gibson, F.C.S., presided, and although the evening was one of the stormiest in the annals of Brighton there was a fair attendance, about twenty being present. The objects of the gathering were to meet Mr. Glyn-Jones and to receive a report from the Secretaries respecting an invitation to the B.P. Conference to meet in Brighton in 1905.

### THE STAMPED-MEDICINE QUESTION.

The Chairman, in introducing Mr. Glyn-Jones, eulogised his very energetic efforts on behalf of the trade, and expressed the opinion with regard to the medicine stamp-duties that if the Pharmaceutical Society had approached the Inland Revenue authorities on the matter considerable modifications would have been effected.

Mr. Glyn-Jones said he would try to explain the position of affairs. He thought that the Inland Revenue authorities two or three years ago, when they had to look well after every source of revenue, probably considered the Medicine-stamp Acts capable of more stringent administration than hitherto. But he thought that they had had little to complain of, as, in his opinion, chemists had conscientiously paid stamp-duty on every article requiring it, as they understood the requirements.

The Acts were very old (over ninety years) and were drawn in the manner of that time, being very wordy, and, instead of making the intention clearer, really verbosity tended to obscure the meaning. With reference to the uncertainty of some of the decisions of Somerset House, he said that as Secretary of the C.D.A. he had had several labels brought to his notice which had been lately condemned by the Somerset House authorities, although they had been previously passed by them as not liable. As a matter of fact, he thought it was no part of the duty of the Somerset House authorities to express opinions as to the liability or otherwise of labels. That they had done so had proved of service to the trade, but the practice had also its disadvantages. The trade had gradually come to understand that the Somerset House opinions were law; in fact, the only foundation for some of the statements in the text-books was that someone at Somerset House had expressed such opinions. He held very strongly that if the Inland Revenue authorities could only be got to administer the law as now defined, it would be a decided advantage to legitimate chemists. The present trouble had arisen from the "Pure Gum Pastilles, Influenza," case, which he explained, as well as the ruling respecting "Cough-mixtures," "Liver-pills," &c., which has come out of it. In consideration of the fact that the decision of the High Court granting to chemists the exemption which was claimed for them in the case wherein he was defendant, he thought the new ruling would be advantageous to qualified chemists as against limited companies and unqualified persons. He thought it would be wise to wait, and not make any change in labels yet, nor send them up to Somerset House, as they are not able to give any better opinion now than they were before. He also considered that the Inland Revenue authorities will not take out summonses broadcast until they have some more definite decision of the High Court to act upon. Mr. Glyn-Jones proceeded to speak of the advantages of the P.A.T.A. and C.D.A., showing how they should be supported, and pointed out the various benefits to be derived therefrom.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Glyn-Jones invited questions on any subject which he had not made clear.

Mr. W. H. Gibson asked, What advantage has the qualified chemist over the unqualified?

Mr. Glyn-Jones explained the four grounds of liability to stamp-duty, and showed how under Exemption 3 a qualified chemist can sell and recommend a medicine prepared according to any B.P., or other standard formula, without stamp-duty, but an unqualified person or limited company may not.

In reply to a question from Mr. Savage as to whether any particular formula books were stated, he said that any formula from any well-known book of reference could be used, provided it had never been held out as a nostrum.

A vote of thanks having been heartily accorded Mr. Glyn-

Jones, the meeting went on to discuss the advisability of inviting the

### BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

After some discussion, Mr. Blamey proposed that an invitation be given to the Conference to visit Brighton in 1905. It appeared that a guarantee of over 80% was already forthcoming for Conference entertainment. The proposal was unanimously agreed to, and the proceedings were brought to a close with a very hearty vote of thanks accorded the Chairman with musical honours.

## Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with O. N. DALTON, Esq., O.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," September 19, 1903.)

- "ANDROTINE"; for a cure for dry rot. By C. Sangster, 43 Northgate Street, Chester, chemist. 253,207.
- "TYO"; for photographic chemicals. By Wells & Co., Clematis Villa, Avenue Road, Southgate. 254,391.
- Buckle device, enclosing unicorn's head, star, and the word "SUBLIMIS" (combination of devices the essential particular); for an insecticide and disinfectant. By A. Davin et Cie., Marseilles, c/o H. C. Fowler, 11 Farnival Street, Holborn. 253,006.
- Combination of devices; for "Antisor," a horse ointment. By J. Butterworth, 78 Artillery Street, Blackburn. 255,808.
- "LEGION"; for chemicals. By the Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited), 1 Balloon Street, Manchester. 256,376.
- "ARGYROL"; for chemicals. By Barnes & Hille, Philadelphia, c/o J. E. Evans-Jackson & Co., 19 and 20 Holborn Viaduct, E.C. 255,093.
- "PHOSPHOIDS" ("Phospho" disclaimed); for medicated lozenges and tablets. By G. J. Craven, 1 Ilminster Gardens, Lavender Hill, S.W. 255,779.
- "OPTOCINE"; for chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy, but not including cod-liver oil and preparations in which cod-liver oil is the chief constituent, and not including any goods of a like kind to any of these excluded goods. By Henry Solomon Wellcome, trading as Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C. 255,906.
- Facsimile signature of applicant; for "Bailey's Tasteless Aperient Pills." By Charles Bailey, 53 Upperton Gardens, Eastbourne. 256,026.
- "CARRAGOL"; for a cough, &c., medicine. By Joseph Winter, Torrisheolme, Roumania Drive, Llandudno, chemist. 256,231.
- "ASUROL"; for a pharmaceutical product. By the Bayer Company (Limited), Elberfeld, c/o Newton & Son, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C. 256,232.
- "BRACINE"; for a medicinal preparation. By R. R. Wrench, 6 Rood Lane, E.C. 256,411.
- Picture of the Curry Leaf-tree (*Murrava Kenigii Spr.*); for curry-powder, &c. By J. Edmunds, Belper Street, Barnsby, N. 255,539.
- Boar's head and the word "PRESERVATIVE" ("Preserve" disclaimed); for food-preserved. By the Preservative Manufacturing Company, New York, c/o W. P. Thompson & Co., 6 Lord Street, Liverpool. 255,731.
- "SAMPAN"; for table salt. By W. Hill, 78 M. Alpin Street, Glasgow. 255,988.
- "GREENBONINE" ("Green Bone" disclaimed); for a dog, game, and poultry food. By J. C. Binnister, Market Place, Easingwold. 256,165.
- "MACKINTOFFEE"; for food-substances. By John Mackintosh (Limited), Queen's Road, Halifax. 256,447.
- "ANOLA"; for toilet-preparations. By D. L. Lewis, 36 Haven Green, Ealing, W., chemist. 255,414.
- "ADORA"; for perfumery and toilet-preparations. By M. E. Foster, 50 Bishopsgate Street Within, E.C., chemist. 255,998.
- "ANTI-LARIA" ("Anti" disclaimed); for perfumery and toilet-articles. By E. Cook & Co. (Limited), Bow, E. 255,449.



## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: September 17.

IN the produce markets the business tone has improved in many quarters, and there have been several interesting movements, most of the changes being in the direction of higher prices. The two outstanding features of the week have been the excitement in the shellac and clove markets, the former article having advanced by leaps and bounds in all positions, while the speculative movement in cloves has developed considerably, and prices are about 25 per cent. higher than since our last report. It is quite possible that still higher prices will prevail. Meanwhile English distillers of the oil have raised their prices 1*d.* per lb. A somewhat sudden demand has sprung up for ergot, in consequence of which the spot market is now very bare, and for arrival there are few, if any, offers. Cascara sagrada is firm, with a seller or two at last week's prices. Dealers are sanguine, however, that prices must eventually advance again. All brands of American peppermint oil are dearer, with a much improved demand. Menthol is lower. A small auction of cinchona was held this week, at which prices advanced about 10 per cent.; in consequence a firmer tone has characterised the quinine-market in second-hands, but the alkaloid is far from active owing to the absence of sellers. Turkey opium is quiet, but for Persian an improved spot demand is reported at rather better prices. In chemicals, ordinary brands of sulphate of copper have advanced, and a steadier feeling is noted in sulphate of ammonia. Cream of tartar and foreign tartaric acid are a shade easier, citric acid being unchanged. Castor oil is firmer, turpentine is dearer, and Newfoundland cod-liver oil is very scarce indeed, both here and in the producing country. Norwegian is also tending higher, several refiners having advanced their quotations. Subjoined are the principal fluctuations of the week, including those recorded at the drug-auctions:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Benzoin (Palembang)	Benzoin (Sumatra)	Areca	Aloes (Cape)
Cloves	Calumba	Cardamoms	Dragon's- blood
Copper sul- phate	Cinchona	Cream of tartar	Gamboge
Ergot	Oil, castor	Ipecac. (cult. Rio)	Menthol
Honey (Jamaica)	Quinine (sec. hands)		
Nutmegs			
Oil, clove			
Oil, coconut			
Oil, cod-liver			
Oil, pepper- mint			
Oil, turpentine			
Pimento			
Senna			

ACID, TARTARIC.—Quiet at 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb. for English, and 1*s.* 0½*d.* for foreign.

ALBUMEN.—The exports of egg albumen from Wuhu, China, during 1902 show a further decline, being 83 cwt. only

(251*l.*) against 102 cwt. (346*l.*) in 1901. The exports of egg yolk were 561 cwt. (277*l.*) against 712 cwt. (334*l.*) in 1901. There is only one factory now working at Wuhu—a foreign one. The prohibition of the import of salt and boric acid mixture is still enforced, and makes the cost of production unduly high, but the chief cause of the decline was the comparative scarcity and consequent price of eggs.

ARGOL.—A parcel from the Cape sold privately last week at 40*s.* for fair pinky, but dusty, small duller ditto, 50*s.*, and good grey, 60*s.* per cwt.

BELLADONNA-ROOT of fair [to good quality is quoted at from 33*s.* 6*d.* to 40*s.*

BROMIDES.—We notice the arrival of 132*l.* worth of potassium bromide from the United States.

CANTHARIDES.—Quotations vary as to whether the crop is new or old, the former being offered at 3*s.* 1*d.* and the latter 2*s.* 7½*d.*, c.i.f.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The market is firm, with a few tons available in second hands at 90*s.* per cwt., on the spot, and in one instance a bid of 87*s.* 6*d.* has been refused. Holders generally are asking 95*s.*, and for arrival there is a quotation of 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb., c.i.f., in the market.

CHAMOMILES.—Fine bold white French flowers, of which a small quantity only is available, are offered at 80*s.* per cwt., c.i.f., and fairly good Belgian are obtainable at from 42*s.* 6*d.* to 45*s.*, c.i.f.

CINCHONA.—At the London auction on Tuesday the small supply of 1,009 packages (containing about 105,000 oz. quinine) was offered, of which the greater part sold at an advance of 10 per cent., the average unit being 1½*d.*, against 1¼*d.* last sale.

The following table shows the quantity of bark offered and sold:

		Packages Offered	Packages Sold
South American cinchona	...	297	297
East Indian cinchona	...	594	437
African cinchona	...	63	45
Ceylon cinchona	...	52	18
		1,009	857

The following were the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:

		Lbs.
The American and Italian factories	...	48,433
The Mannheim and Amsterdam factories	...	36,595
The Imperial Quinine factory	...	33,970
The Frankfurt on-Main and Stuttgart factories	...	17,485
Messrs. Howards & Sons	...	15,820
The Brunswick factory	...	2,939
Total quantity sold	...	155,242
Bought in or withdrawn	...	31,897

Total quantity offered and sold... 187,049

The prices paid were as follows:

AFRICAN.—Dull red quill, 5½*d.* to 5¼*d.*; and red quillings, 4¼*d.* per lb.

SOUTH AMERICAN.—Bolivian cultivated Calisaya quills, 5½*d.* to 5¼*d.*; Colombian, small dusty chips, 6¼*d.*; and twigs, 2*d.*

EAST INDIAN.—Officialis, natural stem chips and shavings, 2¼*d.* to 6*d.*; renewed, 3¼*d.*; broken quill, 5¼*d.*; root, 5¼*d.* to 6¼*d.*; and branch, 4¼*d.*; Red stem chips and shavings, 2¼*d.* to 3¼*d.*; branch, 1¼*d.* to 1¼*d.*; Ledgeriana, natural stem chips, 3¼*d.* per lb.

The half-monthly shipments from Java for September amount to 566,000 Amsterdam lbs., against 180,000 Amsterdam lbs. in 1902, and 601,000 Amsterdam lbs. in 1901. In the drug-auction 32 serons fair sound Loxa quill brought from 10½*d.* to 10¼*d.*, and a bale of dark, thin, flat Calisaya sold at 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb. Seven bales of bright flat damaged Cartagena were limited at 5½*d.*, and 10 serons from Païta sold at from 8¼*d.* to 9*d.* per lb.

COPPER SULPHATE.—There has been an advance of 5*s.* per ton in the cheaper brands, which are now quoted 18*l.* 10*s.* per ton. Anchor brand is unchanged at 20*l.*, and Liverpool quotes at from 19*l.* 10*s.* to 19*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Quiet, at 86*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. for 98-per-cent. powder and 84*s.* for 95-per-cent. First white French crystals, 85*s.*, and powder, 87*s.*



**ERGOT.**—The demand for ergot has considerably improved during the past fortnight, with the result that the spot-market is now very bare of stock, having been practically cleared at from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. A good business has also been done to arrive at up to 1s. 2½d., c.i.f., but nothing more is now available at this price, and 1s. 4d. now seems to be the lowest for Spanish to come forward, and in some instances "c.i.f." quotations have been withdrawn. It is anticipated that the Russian crop will be small, but nothing definite can yet be reported. Nothing was offered at the drug-auction to-day.

**GALLS.**—Holders of Chinese on the spot ask 56s., and for arrival 55s., c.i.f. There is a large stock of blue Persian on the market, a large proportion of which has been temporarily withdrawn, owing to the reports of short crop from Baghdad. These reports, however, have very little effect on this market. Some business done in blue and white at full prices, the former being quoted at from 52s. 6d. to 54s., and the latter at from 49s. to 50s., spot.

**GAMBIER.**—Cubes have been sold at 40s. per cwt., spot, in quantity.

**GUM ARABIC.**—In Soudan sorts the market has been rather more active, and slightly lower figures have been accepted, the business including new crop fair hard red ordinary, at 27s. The stock of so-called insoluble Persian gum is small, and selection poor. Pale selected is quoted at from 22s. to 25s.; small white, 18s. to 19s.; fair to fine sorts, 16s. to 17s.; and ordinary sorts, 12s. 6d. to 14s. per cwt. In auction 20 cases small to medium palish to amber Karachi were limited at 24s., and 31 cases unpicked at 25s., and for palish Soudan sorts 36s. was wanted. Yellowish picked Trieste grain was taken out at 80s. per cwt.

**IODIDES.**—We notice the arrival of 73½ worth of potassium iodide from Japan, entered on behalf of a London firm of wholesale druggists.

**LIME-JUICE.**—Concentrated West Indian has lately been sold at 13½ per cask of 108 gals. A hogshhead of concentrated West Indian sold at 13½ per pipe, and 4 hogshheads of palish West Indian unworked sold at 11½ per gal. in auction.

**OIL, CASTOR,** is firmer, Belgian being quoted at 20½ per ton for firsts and 18½ 5s. for seconds, September-June delivery. Calcutta seconds is quoted at from 2½ to 2½d. per lb., spot.

**OIL, CLOVE.**—Owing to the continued advance in cloves, the English distillers have raised their prices a further 1d., to 2s. 10½d. and 2s. 9½d. for quantity. It is quite probable that the price of cloves and oil will still further advance, so that buyers will do well to cover their requirements both in oil and spice.

**OIL, COD-LIVER.**—Newfoundland non-freezing oil is daily becoming scarcer, and prices have again advanced. Small sales of non-freezing were made early in the week at 14s. per gal., on the spot, but nothing now appears to be obtainable under 17s. Offers have been called out to Newfoundland, but the reply has been received that the supply has come to an end, as the United States has been large purchasers of late. There has been more inquiry for Norwegian oil also, and the tendency is also to higher rates. A private advice from Bergen, dated September 7, quotes finest steam-refined non-freezing Lofoten oil (1903) at from 430s. to 440s. per barrel, f.o.b. Hull, but on Wednesday last the price of this brand was advanced to 445s., and is the lowest quoted. Our Bergen correspondent writes on September 15 that the situation is quite unaltered, with a small business at varying prices, according to the different qualities. Finest non-congealing oil is nominally quoted at 450s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 1,673 barrels, against 6,264 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

**OIL, PEPPERMINT.**—The market has been more active than for some time past, and prices of all descriptions of American oil have advanced. For HGH from 11s. 9d. to 12s. 6d., spot, has been paid this week, and for arrival HGH has been sold up to 12s. 1½d. Various brands of pure so-called Wayne County have advanced from 3d. to 6d., holders asking from 10s. 2d. to 10s. 6d. Todd's brand has been sold

at 12s., spot. Advices received from New York to-day state that the final result of the peppermint-crop shows that the total amount distilled is far short of the original estimate, and that prices are advancing. Japanese dementholised is obtainable at 5s. 6d., spot, although 6s. to 6s. 6d. is quoted in other quarters.

**OLIBANUM.**—Good bold pale drop has been sold at 47s. to 48s., and fair at 37s. per cwt.

**OPIUM.**—There has been a much better demand for Persian opium, and a fair business has been done at 10s. 6d. per lb. on the spot, with further buyers at the price. Only retail sales of Smyrna druggists' have taken place, and for Tokat seconds for manufacturing purposes 11s. has been paid. The following are the current quotations on this market: Good to fine soft-shipping, 14s. to 15s. 9d.; Salonica ditto, 11s. 3d. to 11s. 9d.; seconds, of all soft-shipping, 9s. 6d. to 10s.; good to fine Smyrna, 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d.; seconds druggists', 7s. to 7s. 9d.; common seconds, 5s. to 6s.; and Persian, 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per lb.

**SMYRNA, September 4.**—We have to report a comparatively inactive week, sales of manufacturing opium amounting to 20 cases, old and new crop. The Dutch East Indian Government have also this week purchased some 20 cases of their usual quality at 9s. 3d. Sellers are now more disposed to realise, and we should not wonder if, for a large quantity, they would not accept 2d. to 3d. per lb. lower prices than those now ruling. The following are the present quotations: Current tale quale, for manufacturing, 8s. 6d.; Karabissar, as to quality and condition, 8s. 8d. to 9s. 3d.; Yerli, ditto, 9s. to 10s.; and Bogaditz, 9s. 4d. to 10s. per lb., f.o.b.

**SMYRNA, September 5.**—The market is unchanged, the American buyers remaining masters of the situation. During the last eight days the following transactions have taken place: Five cases new current tale quale, at the equivalent of 8s. 9d.; 6 cases new current and Karabissar tale quale, at 9s. 1d.; 32 cases inspected Karabissar, at 9s. 6d.; and 13 cases old current and choice Karabissar, at from 9s. 1d. to 9s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f. terms, of which 4 cases were for local speculation and the remainder for exportation. The market closed unchanged with buyers, and the arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,245 cases, against 3,452 cases at the same time last year. In spite of the facilities accorded by the local banks to holders of opium, there are still a few weak dealers who wish to realise, and this helps to facilitate the execution of orders.

The imports of Indian opium into Wuhu during 1902 amounted to 176,661 lbs. (137,350½), of which 176,395 lbs. were Malwa and the remainder Patna. These figures show a decrease of about 87,000 lbs. and nearly 70,000, in value, notwithstanding the failure of the opium-crop in Szechuan. This considerable decrease, says the British Consul at Wuhu, suggests that the import of foreign opium varies a good deal *pari passu* with the exchange-rate of silver, for the usual effect of a good rice crop is to increase the demand for the foreign drug. On the other hand, native opium, of which only four chests passed through the hands of the Imperial Maritime Customs last year, shows an improvement, 46 cwt., valued at 15,929½, having been imported in 1902.

**QUININE.**—Consequent upon the advance in the London bark-sale there has been a rather firmer tendency in quinine in second-hands, a small business having been done at from 11½d. to 11½d. for good German sulphate in bulk, there being few sellers at these prices, however. On Wednesday December delivery sold at 1s., and March at 1s. 0½d.

**SHELLAC.**—The market has been excited this week, and, with continued higher prices called from Calcutta, values have again advanced considerably in all positions. On the spot there has been a good demand, and fine Orange has advanced to 190s., supplies being scarce; fair TN Orange is firmly held for 178s., and AC Garnet has been selling at 148s. to 150s. for cakey, and 140s. for blocky G.A.L. For arrival October-December shipment has been sold at up to 179s., c.i.f. terms (about 15s. dearer than last week). Futures are much dearer, a large business having been done, and by Wednesday October delivery had been sold at 184s. 6d. to 185s., November 186s. to 187s., December 186s. to 187s., and January 186s. per cwt.

**SPICES.**—At the public sale small supplies only were offered, and met with a generally slow demand. *Ginger* and *Pepper* were quiet, the offerings being mostly bought in. *Mace* sold at firm prices, fine pale West Indian selling at 2s. 11½d., and ordinary at 2s. to 2s. 1d. Zanzibar Chillies sold at 44s. for fair, and 47s. to 48s. for fine Nyassaland. Nutmegs were dearer. Penang Cloves sold at 8½d. for fair. Privately a large speculative business has been done, spot selling at up



to 5½*d.* per lb. for fair Zanzibar, and for delivery several thousand bales have been sold, including October-December delivery at 5*d.* to 5½*d.*, and January-March 5½*d.* per lb. *Pimento* is firm with sellers at 3½*d.* per lb.

### London Drug-auctions.

At the auctions of old and new drugs to-day a much better tone prevailed, and a fair proportion of the goods was disposed of. The features may be summarised as follows: Cape aloes declined 10*s.*, but other descriptions, for which there was a fair demand, showed no important alteration. *Areca* continues in large supply, and sold cheaply. *Sumatra benzoin* was much firmer, and there is still an absence of fine quality. *Buchu* is firmly held, and for Ceylon coca-leaves unchanged rates were paid. *Cardamoms* sold irregularly, but at rather easier prices. *Calumba* was inclined to be firmer, and *cascarilla* was unaltered. *Dragon's-blood* sold cheaply, and gamboge declined about 20*s.* *Jamaica honey* was in demand at an advance of 1*s.*, and *Rio ipeacuanha* was neglected, cultivated declining about 1*d.* per lb. *Cartagena*, on the other hand, was firmly held. *Kino* sold at about private values, although offered "without reserve." *Menthol* declined 1*s.*, and the market privately is lower also, while *eucalyptus* oil was in better demand at unaltered rates. *Rhubarb* was very quiet, and no important business was done. The various descriptions of *sarsaparilla*, with the exception of *Lima-Jamaica*, sold steadily. *Tinnevely senna* realised an advance of ¼*d.* to ½*d.* per lb., according to grade. Large supplies of *turmeric* were offered, but the drug is neglected. *Beeswax* sold at irregular but firm rates generally. The following table shows the total amount of goods offered and sold:

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Albumen .....	36	...	4	Musk—			
Aloes—				Yunan .....	1	...	0
Cape .....	36	...	38	trimmings .....	1	...	1
Curaçao (boxes) ..	48	...	46	Myrrh .....	21	...	0
Socotrine .....	16	...	11	Oil—			
Zanzibar .....	23	...	12	bay .....	1	...	0
Ambergris .....	9	...	0	castor (E.I.) .....	14	...	0
Annatto-seed .....	14	...	0	cinnamon .....	6	...	0
Araroba .....	2	...	2	eucalyptus .....	65	...	23
Areca .....	155	...	30	lemon .....	13	...	0
Balsam—				monra .....	103	...	0
Copaiba .....	6	...	0	peppermint (Jap.) ..	4	...	0
Peru .....	9	...	0	rose (E.I.) .....	9	...	3
Tolu .....	12	...	0	wintergreen .....	1	...	0
Benzoin—				ylang-ylang .....	1	...	0
Palembang .....	60	...	0	Opoponax .....	2	...	2
Penang .....	4	...	0	Orange-peel .....	14	...	0
Sumatra .....	168	...	54	Orris .....	18	...	15
Buchu .....	33	...	5	Papaw-juice .....	2	...	0
Calumba .....	109	...	16	Pures .....	1	...	*1
Canella alba .....	14	...	0	Rhubarb .....	66	...	8
Cannabis indica ..	10	...	0	Sapote-seed .....	1	...	0
Cardamoms .....	583	...	287	Sarsaparilla—			
Cascarilla .....	33	...	*3	grey Jamaica .....	25	...	23
Castor-seed .....	1	...	0	Lima Jamaica .....	44	...	5
Castorum .....	1	...	0	native Jam. ....	29	...	10
Cinchona .....	59	...	42	Seedlac .....	16	...	16
Coca-leaves—				Senna—			
Ceylon .....	24	...	24	Alexandrian .....	27	...	19
Truxillo .....	4	...	0	Tinnevely .....	318	...	313
Colocynth .....	3	...	0	Squills .....	26	...	0
Croton-seed .....	81	...	0	Strophanthus .....	12	...	1
Cubebs .....	37	...	0	Tamarinds, E.I. ....	6	...	0
Cumin-seed .....	17	...	0	Tonga-root .....	2	...	0
Cuttle-fish bone ..	67	...	2	Tonka-beans .....	30	...	2
Divi-divi .....	2	...	0	Turmeric .....	474	...	50
Dragon's-blood ..	24	...	7	Turtle (dried) .....	1	...	0
Gamboge .....	6	...	6	Valerian .....	33	...	0
Gentian .....	10	...	0	Vanilla .....	1	...	0
Gum acacia .....	61	...	0	Velvet-bean .....	2	...	0
Gum chicle .....	1	...	0	Wax (bees')—			
Honey—				Australian .....	31	...	0
Austrian .....	5	...	5	Chilian .....	2	...	0
Bulgarian .....	2	...	0	Chinese .....	1	...	1
Californian .....	50	...	0	East Indian .....	201	...	14
Jamaica .....	159	...	144	Jamaica .....	43	...	16
Ipeacuanha—				Madagascar .....	54	...	28
Cartagena .....	13	...	2	Morocco .....	26	...	0
Rio (natural) .....	15	...	1	Mozambique .....	3	...	3
" ("cult.") .....	10	...	6	Rangoon .....	21	...	0
Kino .....	7	...	5	Spanish			
Kola .....	6	...	0	(bleached) .....	22	...	0
Lime-juice .....	7	...	5	Zanzibar .....	146	...	1
Mastich .....	5	...	0	Wax (vegetable)—			
Menthol .....	4	...	4	Japanese .....	20	...	10

\* Sold privately.

ALBUMEN.—Four cases Chinese egg sold at 1*s.* 7½*d.* per lb., subject to seller's approval, and for 32 other cases 1*s.* 8*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.* was wanted.

ALOES was in good all-round demand. Of Zanzibar, 12 cases were shown, and all disposed of, at 57*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. for good, hard, hepatic in skins, and for dark drossy 36*s.* was paid. Cape aloes was in better supply, and met with a decline of about 10*s.* per cwt. Good to fine hard bright sold at from 50*s.* to 53*s.*, and slightly drossy at from 47*s.* to 43*s.* 6*d.*, and ditto more so at from 43*s.* to 46*s.* Curaçao aloes sold at steady rates, fine ripe liver of old import selling at from 29*s.* to 30*s.*, good liver 24*s.*, fair at from 19*s.* to 20*s.*, and dull mixed livery, part capey, 15*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Eleven cases of Socotrine sold at 64*s.* per cwt. for stiff paste of fair flavour. The *s.s. Scot* has arrived with 36 cases from Mossel Bay.

ARAROA.—A barrel and a case of damp sold at 1*s.* per lb.

ARECA.—In large supply, and slightly easier rates were accepted for 30 bags, which sold at 9*s.* per cwt.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Good pale Para was limited at 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb.

BALSAM PERU was offered at 4*s.* 9*d.* per lb. without finding buyers.

BENZOIN (SUMATRA) was decidedly firmer; good almondy seconds with storax flavour were held at 7*l.*, and for gum not quite so well packed 6*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* was paid. Good fair almondy seconds sold at 6*l.*, and for medium ditto from 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* was paid, and common seconds brought from 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 15*s.* Palembang has advanced about 10*s.* during the past fortnight, 45*s.* now being required for fair glassy seconds, and for ordinary, with barky ends, 25*s.* is wanted. No Siam gum was offered.

BUCHU sold at steady prices. Good greenish round leaf brought 10*l.* per lb., and a few more bales were obtainable at this price. Stalky quality sold at from 8*d.* to 9½*d.*

CALUMBA showed a firmer tendency. Small to bold yellowish sorts were limited at 17*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and 14*s.* 6*d.* was paid for dull, slightly wormy, sorts.

CANNABIS INDICA.—The remainder of a parcel of tops which has been on offer several times was held at 3*s.* 3*d.*

CARDAMOMS.—Almost every broker offered cardamoms to-day, the total supply aggregating 583 packages. There was a fair demand, and as importers and dealers appeared anxious to sell, rather lower prices were accepted. The following prices were paid: Ceylon-Mysore, fine bold pale, slightly open, 2*s.* 4*d.*; good bold pale bleached, 1*s.* 10*d.* to 2*s.*; medium and bold pale, 1*s.* 7*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*; bold medium pale, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*; bold dullish, 1*s.* 8*d.*; bold pale split, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*; small good pale, 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*; medium and small, 11*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*; small and medium dull, 10*d.* to 11*d.*; small yellowish, 9*d.*; dull specky splits, 9*d.*; peas, 8*d.* to 9*d.*; brown, split and pickings, 8*d.* to 8½*d.*. Two packages small to medium lean native wild sold at 8½*d.* per lb., and medium round pale Mangalore were held at 2*s.* 4*d.* per lb.

CASCARILLA.—Good, part silvery, quill was limited at 65*s.*, and a private sale of 3 bales was made at this price. Siftings were obtainable at 35*s.*

CASTORUM.—A new lot of mixed seconds and thirds was held at 50*s.* per lb.

COCA-LEAVES sold at firm prices, 1*s.* 2*d.* being paid for 7 cases good bright green Ceylon leaves, 8½*d.*, subject, for 6 cases dull brown. From another catalogue two bags dull brown sold at 6½*d.*, and at 4*d.* for very dull, with pickings at 2½*d.*. Four bales of fair broken Truxillo were held at 1*s.*

CROTON SEED.—For a parcel of 81 bags ordinary dark mixed 22*s.* 6*d.* was wanted.

CUMIN-SEED.—Maltese was offered at 27*s.*, at which sales are reported privately.

CUTTLEFISH-BONE.—Very soft palish Bombay sold at 1½*d.* per lb.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD sold at rather lower prices, 4 cases of very dull lump realising from 6*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and for 3 cases of balls, showing a good powder, from 7*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.* was paid, being cheap. Good *Reed* was held at 9*l.* 5*s.*, and sales privately have been made at this price.



GAMBOGE met with a decline of about 20s. per cwt. compared with the prices asked privately, six cases selling at from 15l. to 15l. 2s. 6d. per cwt. for good unsorted slightly blocky and damp Siam pipe.

\* HONEY was in good demand, prices of Jamaica advancing about 1s. per cwt. Good palish stiff Jamaica in barrels sold at from 20s. to 22s.; dark to fair amber syrupy liquid in casks at from 18s. to 20s., and brownish set at 17s. 6d. to 19s. 6d. Dark liquid Austrian in cases brought 16s. 6d. per cwt.

\* IPECACUANHA.—Quite neglected in auction, and of 15 bales natural Rio offered one only sold at 4s. 9d. for fair lean. Good plump Rio was not offered, and is said to be scarce privately. Six bales of fair native picked cultivated Rio (Minas) sold at 4s. 6d. per lb., subject, being about 1d. cheaper than the prices paid at the previous auction. Cartagena was firmly held at 4s. 3d. per lb., and a bag of fair sold at this price, 3s. 10d. being paid for another bag of lean. Privately 4s. has been refused for good Cartagena. The s.s. *Nile* has arrived with 97 packages from Monte Video.

KINO sold at about steady prices, without reserve, 2 cases of dark Cochín gum realising 4½d. per lb., and for another parcel of 3 cases, good quality, 5d. to 5½d. was paid.

KOLA.—For small to bold dark West Indian 7d. per lb. was wanted.

MENTHOL.—About 1s. per lb. lower in auction, 4 cases Kobayashi crystals selling without reserve at 18s. to 18s. 3d. per lb. Privately, October-November shipment of Yazawa brand is quoted 13s. 6d., c.i.f., and for Kobayashi 14s., c.i.f., Hamburg, has been paid.

MUSK.—A tin of trimmings sold at 2½d. per oz.

MYRRH.—Fair palish Aden sorts was obtainable at 80s. per cwt.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—A parcel of Australian partly sold at 1s. 1d. per lb. for B.P., and for a further 20 cases (67 per cent. cineol, Parry's analysis) 1s. 1d. was paid.

OPPONAX.—Two cases sold, without reserve, at 28s. per cwt.

ORRIS.—Fifteen bags lean brown wormy Italian sold at 15s. without reserve.

RHUBARB.—Very quiet. A few cases of native High-dried sold at 5½d. per lb. for medium to bold horny with half-grey and half-dark fracture, and a case of medium flat High-dried, rather wormy, sold at 5½d. Bold round Canton, with three-quarters pinky fracture, was limited at 1s. 5d., and trimming root, with 60 per cent. pinky fracture, remainder grey and dark, at 1s. 6d. Good Canton pickings were held for 11d. Five cases of wormy flat Shensi and High-dried had been sold privately.

SARSAPARILLA sold at steady prices, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. being paid for 9 bales of grey Jamaica, and for 9 bales of coarse 1s. 1d. was wanted. A further parcel of 4 bales fair grey sold at 1s. 1d., subject, sound being held for 1s. 2d. Of Native Jamaica 29 bales were shown, of which a few sold at steady prices, 1s. 2d. being paid for good bright red, sound, 10d. to 10½d. for fair, mixed, and 7d. to 7½d. for sea-damaged. Nine bales of fair grey Lima-Jamaica were bought in at 1s. 2d., and for a parcel of 24 packages more or less coarse and chunky 10d. to 11d. was wanted. To close an account of sales, 7½d. was accepted for coarse and chunky, and a further 11 bales of Lima were limited, at 1s. 1d. per lb.

SEDLAC sold at unchanged prices, 5l. 15s. per cwt. being paid for 14 bags, and 5l. 7s. 6d. for two bags of block.

SENNA.—The quality of the Tinnevely leaf, taken altogether, was very fair, and high prices were again paid for it, values advancing ¼d. to ½d. per lb., according to quality, the following being the prices: *Tinnevely*, bold greenish fair to good, 4½d. to 5½d.; medium greenish, 4d. to 4½d.; small and medium greenish, part specky, 3½d. to 3¾d.; small greenish, 2¾d. to 3¼d.; common to ordinary, yellowish, 1¾d. to 2¾d.; and badly sea-damaged, 1d. to 1½d. per lb. *Pods* sold at 1½d. to 2d. per lb. Thirteen bales Alexandrian siftings had been sold privately, and a few bales of pods changed hands at 6½d. per lb. for fair.

STROPHANTHUS.—Genuine greenish Kombe (Mandala brand) was held at 6s., and a bag of sea-damaged brought 2s. 6d. per lb., subject.

TONKA-BEANS.—Good frosted Para were limited at 1s. 5d. per lb., a bid of 1s. 2d. being refused. Fair are reported to have been sold privately at 1s. 3d., and common red foxy brought 5d., while for a further 5 bags of similar quality 4½d. is to be submitted.

WAX, BEES'.—Prices for Jamaica and Zanzibar were somewhat irregular, but firm. Good bright red Jamaica was limited at 7l. 17s. 6d.; but not quite so good sold at from 7l. 12s. 6d. to 7l. 15s. Fair to dark brown sold at 7l. 10s. to 7l. 12s. 6d., in quantity; and a case of nice pale yellow brought 7l. 15s. Of Madagascar, 28 packages sold at from 6l. 17s. 6d. to 7l.; and Mozambique (3 bales) at 6l. 10s., subject. Another 11 mats fair, part dark Madagascar sold at 7l. 2s. 6d., and low wormy at 6l. 10s. Thirteen cases slightly wormy, unbleached Calcutta sold at 6l. 5s.; and a case of Bombay brought 6l. 10s. Good Zanzibar was limited at from 6l. 15s. to 7l., according to quality. A case of genuine Chinese sold at 6l. 10s. per cwt.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Vegetable sold at from 67s. to 67s. 6d. per cwt., being steady compared with the prices paid privately.

### Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, September 17:—Ergot of rye is firmer at 290m. per 100 kilos. Lycopodium remains scarce, and for Russian cantharides 700m. per 100 kilos. is quoted. American HGH oil of peppermint is dearer, 11½m. per kilo. having been paid.

NEW YORK, September 17:—The market here is active. Opium remains slow of sale at \$3 25 per lb. in single cases. Senega-root is quiet at 70c. for western. Golden-seal is firm at 71c. per lb. An advance has taken place in peppermint oil, \$2 35 per lb. being quoted for tin oil, and \$2 68 for HGH. Mexican sarsaparilla remains scarce at 12s., and a strong market is reported for cascara sagrada at 23c. per lb.

### American Drug-market.

New York, September 8.

Business is looking up a trifle, and the outlook for the fall trade seems good. Interest is mainly confined to American staples.

BALSAMS.—Canada is scarce and firmly held at \$3.15 Oregon balsam is also in short supply, and values have advanced to \$1.25 for barrels.

BEESEWAX is in poor demand, which, coupled with plentiful stocks, render the market easy. Quotations are nominal at 30c. for yellow fine.

ASAFETIDA is scarce on the spot, and firmer in sympathy with London. Prices have advanced, and 24c. to 30c. is asked, according to quality.

CAMPHOR.—Competition has resulted in a decline to 51½c. in barrels, and 55c. in cases.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian is scarce and values firmer, at 65c. to 70c., according to holder.

CASCARA SAGRADA is unsettled and irregular. Sales have been made up to 18c. and 20c. for old bark, and more is to be had at the higher figure. Others ask 22c. for new and 25c. for old. Sales on the Pacific have been made up to 21c. The new crop is very small, but considerable supplies of old bark are still on hand, and only a combination among dealers can force the price to a much higher figure than now asked.

CODLIVER OIL.—Newfoundland pure is in good demand, and has sold freely up to \$100. Holders are now asking \$110 for prime brands. Ordinary is quoted \$2.75 to \$3 per gal. Norwegian is offered at \$102 to \$105, but the standard brands are held up to \$130.

GOLDEN-SEAL has been in good demand, and has sold up to 65c. Most holders now ask 70c., and supplies are not heavy.

GUARANA has declined to 72½c. per lb.

OPUM is weak and somewhat irregular, quotations varying from \$3.25 to \$3.40. Business is slow.

PEPPERMINT OIL is unsettled on the spot, but strong at growing centres. Bulk is offered at \$2.20 and HGH at \$2.45, though conditions warrant a higher market.

QUININE has advanced to 25c. Second hands offer German at 24c. to 24½c. and Java at 22½c. Demand is improving, and the market is firm.

SENEGA is easier, owing to efforts to depress the market. Sales have been made at 73c., and supplies in a small way are offered at 70c. The spot market is not heavily supplied, and dealers are awaiting further shipments from the North-West. The general quotation is 75c. for spot goods.



## The Sale of Cough-Lozenges.

### From the Confectioners' Standpoint.

AT the annual meeting of the Confectioners' Association of the United Kingdom—an organisation, by the way, which claims to represent all sections of the sugar-boiling industry—held at the Royal Agricultural Hall on Wednesday, September 9, a discussion arose over the enforcement by the Inland Revenue authorities of the Medicine Stamp-duty Acts so far as the sale of cough-lozenges is concerned. Mr. A. Buchanan (Glasgow), the President, said the matter had been sprung upon the trade very suddenly. It had a very important bearing upon confectioners, and ought to receive their very serious attention.

The General Secretary (Mr. Granger, Manchester) intimated that he had communicated to Mr. J. Boyd, the General Secretary of the Confectioners' Alliance, the request that that organisation should join the C.A.U.K. in a deputation to the Board of Inland Revenue with the view of showing that the confectionery-trade as a body is very much concerned as to whether its members can or cannot sell cough-lozenges. Mr. Boyd at once replied accepting the invitation on behalf of his Association. He (Mr. Boyd) wrote the Inland Revenue authorities asking them to receive a deputation, but so far had only received a formal acknowledgment of his letter. Mr. Boyd received a letter from the Board in reply to one from him, saying

If a lozenge falls within the definition of a chemical or official preparation, and is recommended or held out as beneficial for the cure or prevention of any ailment or disorder incident to the human body, liability to medicine duty is incurred. In view of the decision of the High Court in the case of *Ransom v. Sanguinetti*, the Board have now no alternative but to regard such a title as "cough-lozenge" as a holding-out of the lozenge as beneficial for coughs.

The Secretary, continuing, said that this made it pretty clear that the words "cough-lozenges" could not be used by any confectioner without stamp-duty being paid. Some people raised the question whether "voice-lozenges" would not be equally liable, but however this might be, they could not do better than await the reply, or press for one, to their request for a deputation. The only prospect confectioners had of improving their position was to have a personal interview with the Inland Revenue officials, and obtain from them a fair definition of what they might or might not sell under the name "cough-lozenges," and, if possible, the removal of some of the disabilities imposed upon them. The C.A.U.K. had appointed as its representatives on the deputation Mr. Stanley Machin, Mr. Murray (London), and Mr. Edwards (Leicester). They would act with a similar number of gentlemen representing the Confectioners' Alliance.

Mr. Taylor White remarked that it made no difference how many they appointed on a deputation of the kind. The more influential it was, the better. He thought they should have upon it representatives from two, three, or more of the country Associations.

Mr. Granger replied that he had only acted in accordance with the instructions he had received from the Executive. It had been pointed out to the Inland Revenue authorities that only a small deputation would attend, and they could not very well go back on that now.

Mr. Taylor White held that the stronger they made the case before the Board of Inland Revenue the more likely they were to receive the concessions they desired.

Mr. E. Guest (Manchester) said he did not wish to discourage any attempt the Association might make to have the legal requirements of the Board modified; but he reminded them that that Department was acting under an Act of Parliament, and that they could not get away from. They, as confectioners, might act the part of passive resistors, and elect a deputation to approach the Board; but he was afraid such a step would be entirely futile. The Board would not alter an Act of Parliament for confectioners or anybody else. No good could be effected, and the only course open to them was to keep themselves strictly within the Act.

Mr. Edmondson remarked that all they desired was to get out of the difficulty as to what the Act really meant.

Mr. Guest replied that if they read the Act it would be clear enough.

Mr. Edmondson said that many people differed as to the construction that should be placed upon an Act of Parliament. Even lawyers did that.

Mr. Guest said that what had been done in the past had been entirely against the Act. The case referred to had been decided on the strict meaning of the Act, and it had been laid down that they could not sell as they had done.

The President: Would you say that to sell voice-pastilles is wrong?

Mr. Guest: No; I would not say that.

Mr. Jos. H. Macadam (London): The use of the word "pastille" does not imply that there is a cure in the article to which it is applied.

Mr. Edmondson said it had been recognised in the past that anyone making a lozenge and claiming for it some of the properties of a patent medicine—for example, there was "Allan's cough-curers"; they cured a cough—was acting against the provisions of the Act. But the sale of an article bearing the simple name "cough-lozenge" or "ginger-lozenge" the Board of Inland Revenue had never attempted to put down.

Mr. J. Sully: They tried to do so twenty years ago.

Mr. Edmondson: That may be; but they never succeeded.

Mr. Sully: They had a very good try at it, all the same.

Mr. Edmondson, continuing, expressed the opinion that united action on the part of the trade was necessary. He deprecated the attempt that was being made to put down the sale of a simple lozenge which had been carried on without objection for generations. (A Voice: "For fifty years.") He thought they had a very strong case with which to approach the Inland Revenue authorities. It occurred to him that the wholesale druggists and the petty druggist were very much exercised over this matter. People like Messrs. Potter & Moore, of London, and others were affected by it, as they made small boxes of pills and other small remedies. Parkinsons and Bell, of Liverpool, as well as others, had formed an alliance to fight the matter, and had asked for a deputation.

Mr. Edwards (Leicester) was of opinion that whatever they did they could not have the Act amended. It was the administration of the Act with which they had to deal—(hear, hear)—and which they desired to understand. Some ten, twelve, or fifteen years ago he inadvertently printed a label and applied it to a cough-drop, describing it as a cure for colds, coughs, and all the ills that flesh was heir to. This was brought to the notice of the Inland Revenue Department, and it was pointed out to him that he had left himself open to a fine. He, of course, pleaded ignorance of the Act, and he was fined the modified penalty of two guineas. He received a letter from the Department to say that he could call an article "cough-drop" or "cough-lozenge," but could not say it was a cure for anything or recommend it as such. That was the interpretation the officials put upon the Act at that time. If they put their case before the Board of Inland Revenue, they might get a similar declaration, or a clear definition of the Act, and a statement as to how it was to be administered. If it was to be administered in its present form, and as it had been stated, it would inflict an injury upon the trade. They could clearly prove that they did not wish or intend to infringe the Medicine-stamp Act or any other Act. All they wished was permission to conduct their business as smoothly as possible. They did not use in their manufactures drugs that were dangerous or injurious—at any rate, not in such quantity as to be dangerous or injurious—and he thought they should obtain the same liberties as they had enjoyed in the past.

Mr. Benniston (Leicester) had the strongest possible conviction that confectioners would be able to sell their cough-lozenges in the future as they had been in the past. As far as he could gather, there had been no fresh Act since 1857. He believed, speaking from memory, that Act distinctly said that the maker of a cough-lozenge must not apply his name to it in the possessive case. The reason the authorities had become so keen in enforcing the Act was that so many had done so. Coming to the meeting that morning, he saw a large bill at an establishment advertising a firm's "far-famed cough-lozenge; sure to cure." He considered that a distinct breach of the Medicine-stamp Act. If this and similar practices could be put down, there would be no diffi-



culty whatever in selling a cough-lozenge. There had been numerous cases where people like the firm he had mentioned had been fined under the Act; but when they withdrew the words objected to, the use of the words "cough-lozenge" was held to be in perfect order. He did not think the more recent prosecutions had any bearing upon their trade whatever.

Mr. Jos. H. Macadam (London) stated that he had submitted to the Board of Inland Revenue a label bearing on the corner the words "Good for the cough, invaluable for the cold," and asked if this would be subject to stamp-duty. The Board replied, after having considered the point for a week, that such a label employed with and applied only to confectionery made with sugar and flavouring, stamp-duty would not be insisted upon. But, the Board added, if it contained any medicinal or official drugs then it certainly would come in for stamp-duty. What the trade wanted was to arrive at some common understanding as to what the authorities considered a medicinal preparation. If they could get at that common understanding with the heads of the Department, there would be less trouble in the provinces. If the officials in the different districts were left to their own guidance, there would be a large number of prosecutions.

The President said that his firm had some experience of this matter. About fifteen years ago they submitted various labels to the Inland Revenue people. They replied that if they simply said "Cough-lozenge, manufactured by Buchanan Brothers, Glasgow," they would not come under the Act. If the trade had confined itself to this description on labels the question would not have been raised. Since then, when any customer asked for cough-lozenges bearing his name, his firm always insisted upon putting the name after the name of the article, and not before the word "cough." They had no trouble in the matter, and, as there was no new Act, their position was the same as it had been. They could, therefore, sell cough-lozenges or voice-pastilles provided they did not recommend them as a cure for a particular ailment or put their name in front of the name of the article.

As the result of the discussion it was agreed to press for a reply to the request, made by the Association, that the Inland Revenue officials should receive a deputation from the Association.

## South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

*Note.*—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:—

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.  
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.  
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.  
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.  
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

MESSRS. HEYNES, MATHEW & Co. are opening another branch at Bloemfontein, O.R.C.; also one at Woodstock, a suburb of Cape Town.

NATAL TRADE.—Drugs and chemicals valued at 46,000*l.* were imported into Natal during the six months ending June 30, against 91,000*l.* for the corresponding period of 1902. These figures are exclusive of military stores.

TRANSVAAL NOTES.—Messrs. Brondum & Co., chemists, Main Road, Fordsburg, have opened a branch establishment at Newlands a suburb some six miles from Johannesburg. Another new pharmacy is to be shortly opened in Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, close to End Street corner.—Business still remains rather slack owing to the non-settlement of the labour question. The Labour Commission will soon have finished sitting, and its verdict is eagerly awaited by all sections of the community.

COLONIAL PHARMACY BOARD.—A meeting of the Board was held at Cape Town on August 13, at which the following were present: Mr. J. A. Mathew (President), Dr. Murray, Messrs. A. Walsh, George Darroll, W. H. Helmore, and the Acting Secretary (Mr. A. W. Dockrall). A letter from the Under-Colonial Secretary was read, stating that his Ex-

cellency the Governor had been pleased to nominate John Alfred Mathew, Albert Walsh, and George Darroll as members of the Board for the term of three years, commencing on January 1 next. In connection with the issue of trading licences a resolution was adopted to the effect that before the issue of any fiscal licence to a chemist and druggist, the issuer of such licence shall ascertain and record the name of the registered chemist and druggist to be in *bona fide* charge of the shop for which the licence is applied for.

A RHODESIAN CIVIL ACTION.—In the High Court, Salisbury, Rhodesia, on July 31, Mr. Justice Watermeyer gave judgment in an action by Mr. R. Leach against Messrs. John Strachan & Co., chemists, dentists, and mineral-water manufacturers. Plaintiff claimed 1,500*l.* damages for wrongful dismissal and for certain commissions for services rendered in connection with defendants' mineral-water business. Defendants tendered and paid into court a sum of 110*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* in settlement. The case lasted two days, and after hearing arguments for the plaintiff his Lordship said he did not think it necessary to call witnesses for the defendants. The plaintiff, he thought, had been extremely foolish in not accepting the tender made by the defendants, as he would now have to pay the additional costs incurred after the making of the tender. There was, said his Lordship, something grotesquely impertinent about the case. The plaintiff, by his gross misconduct, had forced his employers to dismiss him, after they had given him numerous chances to reform. He now came to court and demanded 1,500*l.* for his gross misconduct, and apparently thought he would on his part pay nothing. This was on the face of it absurd. The defendants must pay the plaintiff's salary up to the date of his dismissal, amounting to 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* which was included in their tender of 110*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* for salary and commission due. The judgment of the court would be for 110*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, with costs to the date of tender, but the plaintiff would have to pay all costs incurred after that date.

## Recent Wills.

HAW.—Mr. Samuel Haw, of the firm of Messrs. Haw & Co., drug and general-produce brokers, Exchange Buildings, Liverpool, who died on June 9 last, aged sixty-three, left estate of the value of 14,420*l.*, of which 12,274*l.* is net personalty. Mr. Haw was a member of the Exchange and of the Chamber of Commerce and the Brokers' Association.

OWBRIDGE.—The estate of the late Mr. Walter Tom Owbridge, chemist and druggist, and proprietor of Owbridge's lung-tonic, who died at his residence, Cottingham Grange, Cottingham, Yorks, on June 22 last, aged fifty-nine years, has been valued at 112,214*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* gross, and at 77,797*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* net. With the exception of some small bequests, the testator left his property, subject to his wife's interest in it, in trust for his children. He empowered his executors to transfer his business to a limited liability company.

ROBERTS.—The will of the late Mr. John Bellars Roberts, chemist and druggist, of Bourne, Lincolnshire, who died on November 4, 1902, has been proved at the Lincoln Probate Registry, by the Rev. Robert Younger Roberts, Baptist minister, and Mrs. Louisa Mason, wife of Alfred Mason. The gross estate has been valued at 6,039*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*

ROBERTSON.—Mr. George Henry Cromwell Robertson, F.C.S., of 13 Hemstall Road, Hampstead, late of the West Yorkshire Regiment, and latterly Secretary and Registrar of the Institute of Chemistry, has left a gross estate of 3,776*l.*

ROWE.—The will of the late Mr. Sampson Taylor Rowe, chemist and druggist and county analyst, of Trecarral, Redruth, and Penolver, St. Ives, who died on July 28, has been proved at 3,726*l.* gross.

YEATMAN.—Letters of administration to the estate of Mr. Arthur Yeatman, chemist and druggist, of Cricklewood, N.W., who died on March 22, 1903, have been granted to his son and next-of-kin, Mr. Alexander Alfred Yeatman, 2 Gresham Buildings, Basinghall Street, E.C., chartered accountant, by whom the gross amount of the estate is valued at 436*l.*